

Community Women Against Hardship



History . . . “This is Real!”

The little girl from St. Louis walked slowly around the basement of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, viewing the pictures that were posted in memory of the four little girls killed in the bombing of their church. One of the girls was “about my age” she thought. Confusion and sadness clearly marking her face, she asked her mother, “Why did the men do that, mama? She died for no reason. I’m glad I’m living now ‘cause I don’t know if I’d be alive if I lived back then.” For this little girl, history had become real.

It was August 2, 2014, more than 50 years after the Birmingham Bombing that killed four little girls, sparked riots and launched national protests and movements against a racism that is deeply woven into the American fabric.

The trip to Birmingham was the annual trip sponsored by CWAH for underserved families to cities that are rich in African American history. Perhaps the separation in time provided a sense of safety for the little girl from St. Louis.

Who would have imagined, one week later, August 9, 2014 history would be made real much closer to home, as a young black teenager was shot and killed by a policeman in nearby Ferguson, MO, once again sparking riots and protests that continue to this day. We can only wonder how safe the little girl feels today.

Dr. Patrice Johnson, CWAH board member and a former client of the organization, accompanied the 21 children and adults making the trip to Birmingham this summer. She observed the interaction between mother and daughter in the basement of the church that receives over 80,000 visitors annually. Herself a teacher, parent, missionary and a woman who’s “been through it”, Dr. Johnson spoke candidly about spin, perspective and personal truth.

“The cultural trips are invaluable,” she says, “they provide first-hand experiences to our families and an opportunity to walk through time and come back to the realities of today, almost like a time capsule. With today’s children, for whom black history is just another story in a book, this is not a text or a tweet . . . **this is real!**”

Dr. Johnson emphasized the importance of objectivity and the need for each of us to recognize how perspective and spin changes the way situations are presented. Removing the sometimes-heavy veil of money-driven corporate media and the personal biases that we all hold, requires us to take a step back and evaluate what our personal truths say is real. The continuum of demonstrated racism through the years can disgust and discourage. Spin can carry a subtle message of hopelessness and futility. But Dr. Johnson’s journey through life stands as a testament to what we can accomplish.

With the help of organizations like CWAH, Dr. Johnson has taken her life to a higher level, where service and giving back are paramount. From the victimization of domestic abuse to a Doctorate in Educational Leadership Administration, this woman whose dazzling smile transforms those around her now has her sights set on moving to northwestern U.S. Her journey is taking her outside St. Louis and outside education to ministry and mission, working with the homeless and addressing teenage suicide. When asked what role CWAH played in this incredible journey, she said, “I will always be connected to CWAH, working with them will always be a pleasure, and I will always be there . . . whenever they need me.” Her departure will be our loss, and **this is real!**



COMMUNITY WOMEN AGAINST HARDSHIP
26TH ANNUAL CIRCLE OF SUPPORT GALA
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
"JAZZ IN PINK"
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2014




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**Show Me Series Trip:
A Lesson in Civil Rights**

Special Thanks to:

The Brenda Williams Trust Fund, Joan Nickum, Annie Davis, Lisa Gage, Dr. Anne Price, Henry Lazard, Robyn Heidger, Dr Don Cook, JoAnn Banks James Boone, Evette Taylor, Roosevelt Harris, Jr., C. Christopher Lee, Christine Reams, Calvin Cooksey, and IPM for making this trip possible.

The Constitution

Civil rights attorney Frankie Freeman honored us with a visit to discuss the importance of understanding the Constitution.

She encouraged students to research history for themselves and says "It's good to be able to click on a button, but it's better to create the button."



*"I don't know what the future may hold,
But we are here to help guide how it unfolds."*

THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

And

Community Women Against Hardship



2014

PEOPLE AGAINST POVERTY CAMPAIGN
Seeking To Identify and Assist 20 Families



Nominate a family today to receive services that promote self-development, and encourage self-preservation, through CWAH's support and resource services.

Mail or fax your letters to:
The St. Louis American Newspaper
2315 Pine Street
St. Louis, MO. 63103
Fax: 314-533-2332

ATTN: PEOPLE AGAINST POVERTY

**All letters due by
November 7, 2014**

Preference given to city residents

SAMPLE LETTER
Name of Candidate
Address, Phone
Name and Number of Person
Submitting Candidate:
Ms. Doe is a devoted mother of
three. She works tirelessly to see
that her children get an education
and what they need. Due to recent
cutbacks, she has been laid off after
a number of years on the job. She
could benefit from your Job
Readiness, and Computer classes to
help her re-enter the workforce.
Career Assessment and Counseling
would also be beneficial. The Youth



Pictured above client receives beds and mattresses for family after having to start over.

Help for Families This Holiday Season Wish List - Donate Today!!!

Monetary Donation
Gift Cards, Gas Cards
Art Supplies
Ball game tickets
Bedding
Canned Goods
Fruits/Vegetables
Household Items
Movie Cards
Meat/chicken, fish, beef, pork,
bacon, sausage, lunch meats etc.
Sheets, Pillows, Comforters
Shoes, Boots, Socks
Theater Tickets
Toiletries, Personal Hygiene items
Belts, Under Garments, T-Shirts
Mattresses

Babies, children and adult clothing
Books
Bus Tickets
Gas Cards
Computers, Software
Educational Toys
Home Decorations
Jeans
Jewelry
Job Opportunities
Utility Assistance
Laptops
School Supplies
Personal Hygiene Items
Detergents, cleaning products
Televisions, clocks, radio
Tools, flashlights,



University of Missouri – College of Nursing students, under the supervision of Sheila Grisby engage students in Obesity Prevention six week lesson plan. Topics: Healthy Eating, How to Shop, Exercise Science, Complications of Sugar, and Cooking In the Kitchen



*Year End
Giving Campaign
Challenge*

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHALLENGE
Looking to make that year end donation?

Here's a challenge, we hope you will consider. Forget the ice bucket, no water involved. Sit back sip on a warm cup of tea, or coffee, and simply write a check that will warm the hearts of many who stand in need.

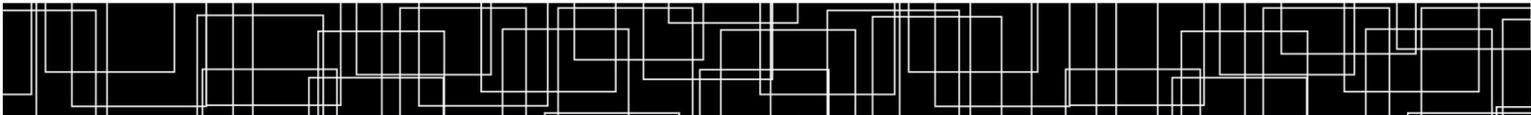
CWAH continues to meet the challenges so many families experience today through their numerous programs and services. Offering resources that educate, uplift, motivate and inspire people to become more self-reliant. The challenges are real and the need is great.

We are proud to serve on this board and hope you will accept this challenge and encourage your friends to do the same, by asking 10 of your friends to match your donation. You decide the amount. No gift is too small or too big, collectively we can do so much more.

CWAH appreciates all that you have done, and continue to do, to help, provide hope for those in need.

Thanks In Advance

CWAH Board of Directors



| | |
|---|----------|
| NAME: | |
| ADDRESS: | |
| CITY,STATE,ZIP: | |
| HOME NUMBER: | |
| CELL NUMBER: | |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | |
| <i>PLEASE USE MY DONATION FOR THE FOLLOWING:</i> | |
| General Donations: (All Programs and Services) | \$ _____ |
| <i><u>I accept the Board Challenge and will ask 10 friends to match my donation of :</u></i> | \$ _____ |
| Youth Enrichment Programs: (Music, Fine Arts, Entrepreneurship Classes, etc) | \$ _____ |
| Parent Opportunity Programs: | \$ _____ |
| Please Remove My Name From Your Mailing list: () | |

CWAH does not sell or disclose any of the information gathered to any other organization, businesses or agencies. Your donations are tax deductible

**Make all checks payable to CWAH, 3963 West Belle Pl St. Louis, MO 63108
 Or visit online donations at www.cwah.org**

