

Delta Zeta Gives



The Lambda Pi Chapter (Georgia College and State University) and friends raised money for ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

"Because we want to play the game of life right and give back . . ." Isn't it incredible how those words from Sorority leaders in the early 1900s are relevant today in this new century? We are busy people! We work hard, we play hard, and we give so much every day: to our families, our friends, and to others. Just like our leaders did more than a century ago.

Since the founding of Delta Zeta Sorority, giving to others has been a core value from which the organization has never strayed. From the Vest Community Center, established in 1922, which brought education and medical care to the children of Appalachia and their families, to Delta Zeta's tireless work for speech and hearing and other causes, philanthropy and service are as integral to the Sorority as the Founders themselves.

At the 47th National Convention, Delta Zeta's partnerships with The Painted Turtle and The Starkey Hearing Foundation were announced. The Painted Turtle was adopted as a national philanthropy. This is in addition to the national philanthropy for speech and hearing, of which The Starkey Hearing Foundation becomes an important part. Both programs will provide Delta Zeta alumnae and collegians more nationwide opportunities to help others. Justin Osmond, nephew of Donny Osmond of The Osmond Brothers fame, was also introduced at Convention. Born with a hearing disorder, he is spokesperson for The Starkey Hearing Foundation.

The Painted Turtle is an innovative medical specialty camp and family care center for children who have chronic and life-threatening illnesses. Campers and their families attend free of charge because of the contributions from organizations such as Delta Zeta. The Painted Turtle is a member of the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps co-founded by actor Paul Newman. The camps are considered to be the finest multi-disease medical camps and family care centers in the world, and Delta Zeta is proud to become a strong support network for this cause—one that changes lives for the better. Learn more at www.thepaintedturtle.org.

The Starkey Hearing Foundation conducts more than 150 missions in countries across the globe "So the World May Hear." These missions include giving away hearing instruments and promoting hearing impairment education. Since 2000, The Starkey Hearing Foundation has touched more than 78,000 lives worldwide. Sorority members will support the important work that The Foundation does, including the distribution of refurbished hearing aids in underprivileged areas in the U.S. and around the world. Find out more at www.sotheworldmayhear.org.

4 The LAMP of Delta Zeta

"I believe that Delta Zeta will find a work worthy of her united effort, perhaps something different than has ever been done before. I believe we should all be searching out this thing . . . because we want to play the game of life right and give back to college, fraternity, state, home and country more than we have received. Organized effort, all working together is what helps the world along faster."

Elizabeth Coulter Stephenson A,
Past National President, September, 1918

For more information...

If you are interested in volunteer and giving opportunities, please contact Leslie Williams, National Philanthropy Chairman, at lbe33@hotmail.com. You can also donate to The Painted Turtle and The Starkey Hearing Foundation through the Delta Zeta Foundation. Visit www.deltazeta.org and go to Foundation Focus to contribute online or to download a contribution form.

"Because we want to play the game of life right and give back . . ." Because we are Delta Zetas, because we are women, because we are human, we are compassionate in the face of need. Not only do we want to help, but we find ways to help and make a difference in the lives of others. That difference, no matter how small, inspires others to give, whether or not they are a part of Delta Zeta. And that is Delta Zeta's legacy.

We continue to seek "work worthy of her united effort." Where we see a need, we put forth "organized effort, all working together" to ensure that our work benefits those we assist and is meaningful to the Delta Zetas who give in the effort.

Many alumnae and collegians are involved individually in volunteering in their communities. Alumnae and collegiate chapters around the country organize, sponsor, and work for philanthropic projects and causes all year long, every year.

Delta Zeta knows the power of women to effect positive change, and has proven it from our earliest volunteer work during World War I to the *Sound Beginnings* infant hearing screening program launched in 2005. Even before women had the right to vote, Delta Zeta members were taking change into their own hands by volunteering wherever they saw a need and whenever someone reached out for help.

Not only are we women, but we are Greeks. Recent research done by the Research Initiative of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) and the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) indicates that members of Greek organizations:

- tend to make larger gifts when donating to various causes.
- are more likely to volunteer in their communities.
- to be active in civic affairs.
- to be civically responsible citizens during adulthood.

Collegiate chapters on campuses in the U.S. and Canada sponsor and participate in countless charitable events to benefit many causes. Because giving "back . . . more than we have received" is integral to Delta Zeta's core values, philanthropy is a part of the Sorority's recruitment process. New members learn about Delta Zeta's commitment to service by undertaking a philanthropic project of their own before they become initiated members.

Leslie Evans Williams E,
Delta Zeta's National Philanthropy Chairman,
on Delta Zeta's Newest Programs and
Philanthropic Partnerships, and Why Everyone Needs to Give



"Knowing that you are supporting an organization that is making a difference in another person's life or participating in a community service project is a very enriching experience," Leslie Evans Williams E '96 says. "The experience affirms that little things can make a big difference and allows us to feel a part of the mission of that organization. It also inspires us to give more of ourselves."

As the new National Philanthropy Chairman, Leslie's enthusiasm is inspiring, too. She will lead the National Philanthropy Committee on several new projects, including working with The Painted Turtle and The Starkey Hearing Foundation, further developing the *Sound Beginnings* infant hearing screening/education program begun last year, and nurturing Delta Zeta's relationships with Gallaudet University and the House Ear Institute. In addition, a new Philanthropy section on the Delta Zeta website at www.deltazeta.org will provide resources for philanthropic events and post success stories from collegiate and alumnae chapters. "Our chapters are doing so many great things on their campuses and in their communities, and we want to let everyone know how Delta Zetas are making a difference," says Leslie.

As a collegian, Leslie served as Treasurer for the Epsilon Chapter at Indiana University. She was the College Chapter Director for the Theta Theta Chapter (DePaul University) and the Theta Chapter (Ohio State University). She also served as the National Chapter Advisor for Epsilon and was a member of the National Recruitment Committee. Leslie believes that her many experiences in these different areas of the Sorority serve her well in her new role as National Philanthropy Chairman. Professionally, Leslie is a Senior Real Estate Analyst at ACG Professionals in Atlanta, Georgia.

The committee members for the collegiate area are: Monica Carney OΛ '99, Lisa Cast ΔΘ '01, Amber Collins ΒΛ '01, Amanda Ingram ΒΔ '00, Mika Kawana ΖΠ '02, Jenny McKenna-Daily ΔΤ '99, and Helen Rotnem Θ '01. The alumnae philanthropy committee members are in the process of being appointed.

In working with collegians, Leslie sees the strong "Millennial" trend of volunteering associated with this generation. "I am amazed by the amount of service and fundraising events our chapters do throughout the country," says Leslie. "Their eagerness and enthusiasm is inspiring!"

Leslie and her husband, Russ, volunteer as a Big Brother and Sister. "We now realize that the experience for us has been just as meaningful as it has been for our little brother," she says.

Leslie Evans Williams exemplifies the spirit of giving to others in her own life. She says, "Through our Sorority's *Creed*, we pledge, 'To those whom my life may touch in slight measure, may I give graciously of what is mine.' In doing so, we not only give to others, but also to ourselves."

If you are interested in volunteering opportunities for Delta Zeta's philanthropic projects, please contact Leslie at lbe33@hotmail.com.



Today's Millennial generation (those born between 1977 – 1998, totaling 75 million today) has experienced service as a part of their middle and high school life, and because they believe they can make a real difference in the world, they look for those same characteristics in any organization they may consider becoming a part of. Delta Zeta has value for them, offering many opportunities for community service and philanthropic involvement.

Millennials: Ready to Make a Difference

83.1% report volunteering in high school.

Students indicated that participating in a community action program could be considered "essential" or "very important" to them.

41.2% report "some chance" of participating in service while in college.

(Source: *UCLA Freshman Survey, 2003*)

Fifty percent of high school students reported volunteering in their communities, many of their high schools requiring community service hours for graduation. On one Roper Survey, when Millennials were asked for the major cause of problems in the U.S., they answered selfishness.

(Source: <http://www.generationsatwork.com/default.asp>)

As members of Delta Zeta, no matter what our age, we understand the importance of giving to others—not only as our responsibility to help worthy causes or people in need, but to broaden our horizons and receive a true sense of satisfaction that comes from giving. That is playing "the game of life right." We learn how to inspire and lead others in working toward worthwhile endeavors—"all working together" to help "the world along faster." And we take pride in the fact that we belong to an organization that continues to "give back to college, fraternity, state, home, and country more than we have received."

Photo page 5, courtesy of The Painted Turtle, depicting children at the summer 2006 Camp.