



The End of Another Successful Year

Dear Friends,

Year's end is a time to reflect over all that has gone before, to evaluate our efforts, to be grateful for the blessings that have come our way. While thinking of all you experienced in 2008, take a moment to reflect on what your support of Paper and Pencils means to the children and communities we serve. This year we shipped nearly 900 pounds of schools supplies and books, which translates into over **300** children are going to school with new back-

packs and binders; over **500** children have a book to read. You generosity helped students obtain an education and teachers hold class in: Bearden Elementary, Sumner MS, Coahoma School District, Clarksdale, MS, West Bolivar School District, Rosedale, MS, Parks Elementary School, Cleveland, MS, Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School, Porcupine, SD and the Oglala Lakota College, Pine Ridge, SD. We also provided books to support the afterschool programs

of the Americorps/Vista program in Cleveland, MS and the Youth Opportunity program in Marks, MS.

You gave the children the great gift of an education, but more than that, you gave physical evidence that someone cares about them, someone who doesn't even know them, but helps them just the same.

Who would have thought such a small thing as a pencil could do so much? Thank you.

We wish You the Happiest of Holidays!

We Thank Our Recent Donors:

- E & M Mulloy, VA
- S. Colgate, MD
- D. Archer, TN
- C. Gibson, DE
- Sandy Spring Friends School Library, MD
- C. Pope, IL

Annual Giving Campaign

We've reached many children and schools over the past five years, but sadly the work is far from over. It's over four years since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Delta but struggle to recover goes on. The difficult economic times we are all facing will be even harder for those whose resources are meager in the best of times. At Paper and Pencils, Inc., we remain dedicated to help disadvantaged children obtain the one thing proven to raise them out of poverty: an education. When you are preparing your end of year giving, please keep in mind that over 97% of every dollar you give goes directly to our children and their schools. Our staff is volunteer, and almost all of our administrative costs are donated. We know you receive many requests for funding and we humbled by your support of our work. Please return the enclosed Annual Giving Campaign envelope with your donation.

With your help, we are changing the Delta, one pencil at a time!

"Thank you for donating backpacks with school supplies for our district Elementary and Middle School level students. We appreciate the gracious donation."

Pauline Rhodes,
Superintendent, Coahoma County School District





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Changing the Delta One Pencil at a Time

Board of Directors News

Please meet our newest Board Directors:

Ms. Evelyn Jossell, is the CEO of Youth Opportunity in Marks, MS She is also the Resource Developer for the Quitman County School District and founder of Imani Professional Consulting, a Limited Liability Company with a vision of transforming underserved communities through resource development, grant writing, programs management and evaluation. Ms. Jossell received her early education in the Coahoma County School System and received a B.S. Degree in Business Administration from Mississippi Valley State University, a Masters of Education from the University of Mississippi and is currently completing her final hours on a Doctorate in Educational Administration.

Ms. Linda Stringfellow, the Project Director of the Mississippi Delta Service Corps/ AmeriCorps*Volunteers In Service To America (MDSC/IA*VISTA) Program at the Center for Community and Economic Development at Delta State University. Along with her AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps*VISTA experience, she has nine years of public relations experience with assisting non-profit agencies in developing and implementing annual objectives and strategic plans; five years of adjunct professor experience; two years of correctional counseling experience with establishing individualized plans for inmates and their families, and three years coordinating experience with "at-risk" youth programs with a focus on education, rehabilitation and self-motivation. Ms. Stringfellow received her BS in Criminal Justice from MVSU and her MS in Criminal Justice from DSU. After completing two years of service as an AmeriCorps member, she joined the staff at the Center in 2000 as a Program Associate for Field Services and in 2002 she was named MDSC's Program Associate for Public Relations and Recruiting. In 2003 Stringfellow started a new AmeriCorps program at the Center, Mississippi Delta Service Corps/AmeriCorps*VISTA.



"What a wonderful surprise this week when 2 boxes of school supplies were delivered to our Nursing Program. Since the semester courses have just ended we will distribute the supplies in January at the start of spring semester. We are one of only 3 RN programs offered within a tribal community college in the USA. The majority of our students are Native American but also have other non-native students and the majority of all our students are disadvantaged. Not having to buy some school supplies may not seem to many as important but to our students this gesture is truly welcomed and important. Thank you so much for your compassion and generosity. Have a blessed holiday season.

Joan G. Nelson, R.N., MSN
Chairperson, Nursing Department
Oglala Lakota College