A seasoned Delta leader, Beverly E. Smith has an extensive history of serving the Sorority on local, regional and national levels. She served on the 2000-2004 National Executive Board as chair of the Long Range Planning Task Force and was the coordinator for the 2002 National Convention, one of the largest, most profitable conventions in Delta’s history. Most recently, she served as the National First Vice President and chair of the National Scholarship and Standards Committee (2013-2017), as well as National Secretary during the 2008-2013 administration. She is also the only elected officer to have had the opportunity to work as the Sorority’s executive director (1988-90) managing the headquarters operation.

Her vision for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is of a sisterhood that actualizes the mantra “joy in our sisterhood... power in our voice... service in our heart.” Smith has committed herself to leadership that is resourceful, relevant and relational, and believes in the charge: “All good men and women must take responsibility to create legacies that will take the next generation to a level we could only imagine.”

Professionally, Smith retired as the assistant commissioner and Georgia State director for Adult Education and GED Testing through the Technical College System of Georgia. As an entrepreneur, Smith is the senior vice-president of The HR Group, Inc., a management consulting firm which she has co-owned with her husband, Stephen, for 27 years.
MISSION

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is an organization of college-educated women committed to the constructive development of its members and to public service with a primary focus on the Black community.

PURPOSE

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. Since its founding, more than 300,000 women have joined the organization. The organization is a sisterhood of predominantly Black, college-educated women. The Sorority currently has over 900 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, Germany, Jamaica, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the Virgin Islands.

The major programs of the Sorority are based upon the organization’s Five-Point Programmatic Thrust. More than 10,000 members typically attend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.’s biennial national conventions, and each of the seven regional conferences (held during years when there is no national convention) typically hosts thousands of members. At its 51st National Convention held in the District of Columbia, more than 38,000 members registered and attended.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded at Howard University on January 13, 1913 by 22 collegiate women.

Through its use of the Five-Point Programmatic Thrust, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. provides an extensive array of public service initiatives focusing on: economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical and mental health, and political awareness and involvement.

1937: Began its first national program called the National Library Project, which established a traveling library that served the rural areas of the South.

1941: Became the first sorority to provide a program of employment counseling and career development for Black women.

1963: Opened Mary Help of the Sick Mission Hospital (formerly Thika Maternity Hospital) in Thika, Kenya, shortly after they gained their independence.

1977: Created the Distinguished Professor Endowed Chair for Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

1992: Established a partnership with Habitat for Humanity in which the Sorority built homes in the United States and Africa.

2003: First Black Greek-letter organization to be named a Non-Governmental Organization by the United Nations.

DIF YOU KNOW?

Deltas are employed at every level in the fields of education, management, social sciences, social work, medicine/health, law, engineering, architecture, the performing arts, information sciences, public administration (federal, state, and local levels), the judiciary, journalism, and religion.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's major programs are based upon the organization's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust, which consists of:

- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT
- PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH
- POLITICAL AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

Some of the Sorority's national programs and initiatives include:

- **The DR. BETTY SHABAZZ DELTA ACADEMY**, an educational program created in 1996 out of an urgent sense that bold action was needed to save our young girls from the perils of academic failure, low self-esteem, and crippled futures. The program provides an opportunity for local chapters to collaborate or work independently with at-risk young women between the ages of 11 and 14.

- **DELTA GEMS: Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully**, a program created to inspire the dreams of African-American adolescent girls between the ages of 14 and 18, who are considered at-risk. The Delta GEMS program offers a road map for college and career planning through activities that provide opportunities for self-reflection and individual growth.

- **EMBODI: Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence**, a program designed to direct some of the Sorority's efforts on the plight of African-American males, between the ages of 11 and 18. EMBODI addresses issues related to STEM education, culture, self-efficacy, leadership, physical and mental health, healthy lifestyle choices, character, ethics, relationships, college readiness, fiscal management, civic engagement and service learning.

- **DELTA DAYS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL**, the Sorority's annual legislative conference convened to chart the course of the Sorority's political awareness and involvement; brief the membership on current legislative matters; and increase involvement in the nation's policy making process.

- **DELTACARE**, is a call to action for all members of the Sorority to practice the ethic of self-care through three components: physical wellness, emotional wellness, and awareness and advocacy. The components of DeltaCare will include:

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**PROGRAMS**

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

“Power in our Voices: Delta, We are the Change”

DELTA DAYS IN THE NATION’S CAPITAL, the Sorority’s annual legislative conference convened to chart the course of the Sorority's political awareness and involvement; brief the membership on current legislative matters; and increase involvement in the nation's policy making process.
DELTA DAYS AT THE UNITED NATIONS, an annual forum held at the UN. Through the Sorority’s special consultative status as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), it has the opportunity to gain access to and disseminate information concerning a range of issues on women and children in which the United Nations is involved.

INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS & INVOLVEMENT, the Sorority harnesses its vast potential to strategically impact the plight of people of color living across the diaspora through several projects:

- Mary Help of the Sick Mission Hospital (Kenya, Eastern Africa)
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Elementary School, Cynthia M. A. Butler-McIntyre Campus (Cherette, Haiti)
- I Can Fly High School (Kenya, Eastern Africa)
- Muindi Mbinga School (Kenya, Eastern Africa)
- Siana Boarding Primary School (Kenya, Eastern Africa)
- Delta House/Vashti Village (Swaziland, South Africa)
- Training Resources in Family Education (T.R.E.E.) (Durban, South Africa)
- Adelaide Tambo School for the Physically Challenged (Johannesburg, South Africa)
- Water Tanks and Wells, a collaboration with Water for Children Africa, that provided financial support for the placement of seven water tanks in the Machachos School District outside Nairobi, Kenya

FINANCIAL FORTITUDE, an initiative designed to decrease debt and increase wealth in the African-American community, minimize financial fraud and exploitation of Delta Dears and heighten awareness of Delta entrepreneurs. Current programs include:

- dfree® Financial Freedom Movement and dfree® Young Money
- Financial Fraud & Exploitation
- Delta Red Pages Business Directory
- Economic Empowerment
The members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. represent a unique segment of the nation’s demographic profile. Delta women are movers and shakers. They hold political offices, own businesses and are influential in a range of fields from medicine to law to education. A great number of the most astute professionals, entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, political leaders, educators and key influencers from around the world hold membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Some of the organization’s most distinguished members include: former U.S. Secretary of Labor, The Honorable Alexis Herman; Attorney General Loretta Lynch; Congresswomen Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Yvette Clark (D-NY) and Brenda Lawrence (D-MI); and renowned journalist Melissa Harris-Perry.
Delta ERT Put to the Test...and Passes Hurricane Season 2017

New Administration Stresses “Joy in Our Sisterhood, Power in Our Voice, and Service in our Heart”

The 22 Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority participated in the Women’s Suffrage March in 1913. These young women wanted to use their collective strength to promote academic excellence; to provide scholarships; to provide support to the underserved; to educate and stimulate participation in the establishment of positive public policy; and to highlight issues and provide solutions for problems in their communities.
Organizational structure and governance of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is invested in the Grand Chapter, which meets in National Convention biennially. Regional Conferences are held in the seven geographic regions of the organization during non-convention years. In the interim, the Executive Board, consisting of elected and appointed members, acts to establish and implement policies, as needed. A paid professional staff, under the leadership of the Executive Director, operates the National Headquarters office in Washington, D.C.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. conducts all of its activities in accordance with the rules that govern organizations whose tax status is 501 (c)(7).