



# *Jack and Jill of America, Inc.*

*Empowering Our Youth to Excel through Leadership & Service in Our Communities.*

## **For Immediate Release**

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## **JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC. GIVES \$465,000 TO THE JACK AND JILL FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

### **Group Continues Commitment To Thompson Quintuplets**

(Washington, DC). Jack and Jill of America, Inc. will present a check on **FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2007 AT 1:30 PM at the WESTIN CITY CENTER HOTEL, 1400 M STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20005** for \$465,000 to the Jack and Jill Foundation, Inc. to support its efforts in leadership development. This contribution will be used to support leadership programs that create opportunities and challenges for children to learn and practice leadership skills, as well as build leadership character in youth.

“We believe that leaders are made, not born. That is the basis of our five-point strategy,” said Jacqueline Moore Bowles, President of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. “It’s part of our philosophy that every child - if given the proper guidance and opportunity - can be developed into a great leader. If ever there was a time in our history that we need great leaders, the time is now”. It is this commitment to youth that prompted Moore Bowles to create Jack and Jill’s national theme, *Empowering Our Youth to Excel through Leadership & Service in Our Communities*.

The Jack and Jill Foundation’s five-point strategy seeks to: foster the building of character within children; instill cultural consciousness and intellectual, moral, practical and emotional responsibility in children; cultivate and promote projects that provide children with the opportunities and challenges to learn about leadership; target Foundation resources toward grant proposals that emphasize listening, learning, thinking and problem-solving, and design, implement and support programs that provide leadership training for children.

Since the 1940’s, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has given money to many worthwhile causes. One of the first was an \$85,000 contribution to the Rheumatic Fever Foundation to find a cure for Infantile Paralysis (what has since been re-named Poliomyelitis). By 1968, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. became the first among African-American organizations to create a philanthropic arm, the Jack and Jill Foundation Inc., dedicated to the betterment of children, especially African-American children.

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. will also announce its ongoing commitment to the **Thompson quintuplets** by sending them on an all-expense-paid trip to Walt Disney World and presenting them with gift cards for back-to-school clothing and supplies. In 1997, Jacqueline Thompson gave birth to sextuplets in Washington, DC. One infant, Allison, was stillborn. In 2000, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. became deeply involved with the Thompson family. “Our support of this family has been extensive. If we see a need, Jack and Jill is there to help”, said Moore Bowles. Jack and Jill of America, Inc., with over 200 chapters nationwide has demonstrated its ongoing commitment for the development to the Thompson quintuplets by providing them with computers, funding camping trips and tutoring sessions, making home repairs, and ongoing communication with the family

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a national children’s organization founded in 1938 to provide educational, cultural, civic, recreational, and social activities for youth between the ages of 2 and 19. Today, there are 218 chapters, in 35 states, united through national initiatives to enhance the quality of life for youth.