

DS DFI



MEET OUR NEW DIRECTORS

NEWS ABOUT OUR HOME

DSTDFI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



OUR HISTORY

WHO ARE WE?

Delta Service Through Detroit Foundation Inc (DSTDFI) was established in 1999 as a 501 (c)(3), tax exempt organization. The contributions of individuals, community, and corporations enable us to continue to embark upon our mission to “improve the quality of life for future generations,” and make substantial contributions and investments in our community by way of scholarship programs for the youth, seniors and environmental justice.

DSTDFI stands on the shoulders of giants. The foundation was chartered by Alma Y. Hunter, Anitta Y Orr, Carol A. Sayers Puryear, Clarice L. Ogilvie Posey, Denise Thames Jackson, Doris Corsey Arnold, Dorothy Ellison McLemore, Mattie B. Jones Johnson, and Norma J. Dotson Sales. We were charged with the unique task of owning properties and assets of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Detroit Alumnae Chapter. At that time the foundation was governed by a membership governance structure; members of DSTDAC were also members of DSTDFI. In 2015, the Grand Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, mandated all chapters and foundations completely and legally separate from the sorority. No elected official of a sorority chapter may serve on an affiliated foundation board of directors, and its members are not automatic members of the foundations. As of January 2023, DSTDFI currently serves under a directorship structure recognized by the state of Michigan. Our new bylaws were adopted in September 2023. The State of Michigan is our governing authority, and we are a non-profit in good standing.

OUR PURPOSE

To engage in public service programs that promote and encourage high intellectual, cultural, and moral standards among residents of our community, with an emphasis on senior citizens, youth, and environmental justice. We seek to establish, foster and organize educational, historical, and cultural programs that will provide meaningful intergenerational activities for our community and will instill values and respect for all citizens, as well as improve the quality of life for future generations.

Aletha Wells Ph.D.
President

Kimberley Reed Thompson, Esq.
First Vice President

Marjorie Porter
Second Vice President

LeDora Scott
Secretary

Barbara J. Anderson
Treasurer

The Steadfast 16!

Alona W. Donerson
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Laronda Jackson
Director

Jewell Jones
Director

Helen E. Monroe
Director

Patrice Simpson
Director

Marlena E. Taylor, Esq.
Director

Su'Dawn M. Walker
Director

Despite the enemy's consistent attempt to divide us, on June 5, 2025 a unanimous vote of 16 women passed to burn the mortgage! **DSTDFI HQ mortgage is now burned!** These 16 women are now recorded in history for completing the task of trailblazers on whose shoulders we now stand. Only the Holy Spirit of the TRUE & LIVING GOD is able to move the hearts and minds of **"The Steadfast 16!"** to have unwavering courage to move **#FORWARD** and get the job done!

#LIVINGLEGACIES!

Delta Service Through Detroit Foundation Inc.
2024 – 2027 Board of Directors

OUR PROPERTY

| 24760 W. 7 MILE ROAD

DSTDFI owns 5.6 acres of land, formerly owned by Stark-Hickey Ford Dealership which was purchased in 2009. Five (5) Detroit parcels are tax-exempt and six (6) Redford parcels taxes are paid by the current tenant occupying 24760 W. 7-mile road. Since 2016, DSTDFI has donated \$49,520.47 to support our main tenant DST-DAC with mortgage processing fees[renewal/closings], maintenance, and major repairs. The lease payment of DST-DAC has always been equal to the mortgage payment without a profit. Through the years, the other parcels have experienced a variety of faithful and unfaithful tenants. Evictions and legal fees are incurred solely by DSTDFI. Current leases are under review for eviction consideration due to lease violations.



| 18340 W. 7 MILE ROAD

In the late 1980's, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Detroit Alumnae Chapter purchased an owned the property located at 18340 W. 7-mile road until the Grand Chapter of DST mandated local chapters not to own property in the late 1990's. DST-DAC moved to the current DSTDFI HQ in 2009 and DSTDFI became the owners of two (2) properties.

The property at 18340 W. 7-mile also experienced interesting tenants (churches) through the years. As owners, DSTDFI spent \$109,505.92 in maintenance, property taxes, land-contract foreclosures, and legal fees on 18340 W. 7 mile. Retaining the property was unsustainable, so the building was sold in 2024 for \$125,000.00 [\$117,987.69 at closing].

Two (2) major payments were made towards the principal of the current headquarters, \$100,000.00 [Edward & Alma Greer Fund 2011] and \$117,987.69 [sale of the property at 18340 W. 7-mile road in 2024]. On June 5, 2025, DSTDFI voted to pay the remaining balance of the mortgage, and the MORTGAGE IS PAID-OFF thanks to THE STEADFAST 16!

OUR PROGRAMS

“YOU’RE KILLING ME!” – DETROIT URBAN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

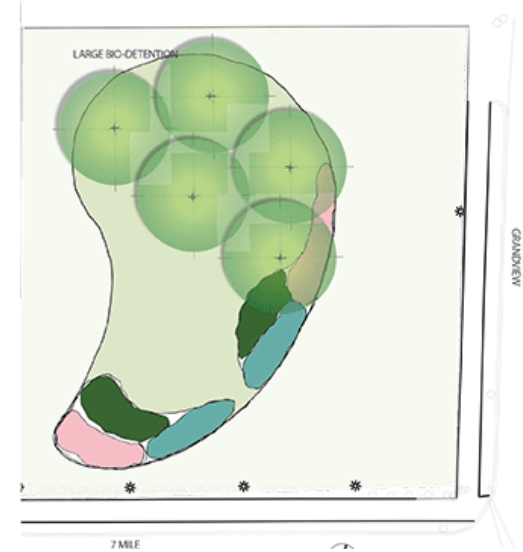
DSTDFI has embarked upon an environmental stewardship/stormwater run-off management project entitled, “You’re Killing Me!”- A Detroit Urban Green Infrastructure Project. DSTDFI was awarded \$450,000.00 to complete Phase I from MI Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). We also received \$25,000.00 from New York Life Community grant for this project.

“You’re Killing Me!” is a site-specific phase one approach to increasing urban green infrastructure utilizing faith/community-based properties as a vehicle for large scale community outreach which will optimistically reduce stormwater run-off volume to prevent combined sewage overflows.

The project seeks to:

- ▲ Design and implement storm water Best Management Practices (BMP) at the DSTDFI HQ
- ▲ Implement a Communication/Marketing urban environmental stewardship Campaign
- ▲ Conduct community education outreach through community forums to all who benefit from church and public service programming including the implementation of a social monitoring component DSTDFI will design and implement Bioretention/Rain Gardens, located on large community/faith based “shovel ready” commercial properties, to prevent storm water run-off from reaching Combined Sewage Overflows/ Water Treatment Facilities.

INSITE
Design studio, inc.
landscape architecture



THE WOMEN OF THE WOODS PROGRAM

Equal Play, Equal Pay – Promoting gender equity for high school female student-athletes.

DSTDFI and friends of DSTDFI donated \$4,780.00 to the Woman of the Woods Program sponsored by Harper Woods HS.

Value. It is a concept all women struggle with, and female student athletes are no exception. The goal for this program is to erase the stigma of “invisibility” attached to girls’ sports. Female high school athletes compete twice as hard for equity in athletics with minimal recognition from their peers, the community, and even family. Extraordinary internal strength is needed to persevere and operate in a spirit of excellence. Even more essential is the need to learn how to support and encourage one another as women. Healthy female bonds are often negated and minimized to just teammates until the season is over. This trip assisted in establishing female comradery as a norm at Harper Woods High School. Our goal was to tangibly express their value beyond their gifts and talents; they will know they are worth our investment in their moral character over not championships. #WESEYOU!

To date DSTDFI has hosted several events that support its mission. Some of the events are:

- Forums covering health issues (Detroit Agency on Aging – Senior Service Community Fair)
- 16th Annual Golf Classic
- Established a library in homeless shelters for women and children by donating books
- Annual Silver Sponsor- ACA Relay for Life
- Fun/Run Walk in its early inception
- Summer Enrichment program- Discovering the “D” with the “D”
- Freedom School – Children Defense Fund Freedom School
- Partnership with Because We Care Foundation- Back To School Extravaganza
- Twice Nice Resale Shoppe – 2013-2017
- Signature Gala – Glitz and Glamour



Calling all BICYCLING ENTHUSIASTS and Community Connectors!

DSTDFI, in partnership with the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, is proud to sponsor the first **Detroit Community Bike Race, to be held on Belle Isle in the fall of 2026.**

This major event is designed to increase positive interaction between metro Detroit's youth and law enforcement officers.

As the Community Team tries to beat the Law Enforcement Team, we'll all ride together for education, engagement and exercise – in friendly competition.

#W.E.E.E.CycleDETROIT!



VOLUNTEER TO HELP PLAN!

The **public is invited to join** in planning this inaugural bike race event.

We'll begin meeting in **October** to plan for this family-friendly day that will also include cash prizes, food, and fun-filled competition.

Here's how you, your family and friends can sign up to help. **Spread the word to all of your social media contacts!**

To Sign-up for the W.E.E.E. Cycle Detroit Program Committee go to:

bit.ly/WEEECycleDetroit





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Scan Barcode For more Information
Sign-up if you would like to receive
information on DSTDFI Events & Updates

