

Feel Good Friday Update

A collection of uplifting stories when we need them the most.

211 Day Issue **February 10, 2023**



Every day, thousands of Delawareans struggle to find affordable childcare, access to healthcare, money to buy food and pay the bills, and take care of other essential needs. *Can you imagine the frustration and fear that comes with facing eviction, hungry children, untreated illness – without knowing where to turn?*

Across the nation and here in Delaware, we have a confidential helpline where people in crisis can turn for help. It's 211. In the United States, 211 responds to more than 21 million requests for help every year. Most calls, web chats, and text messages are from people looking for help meeting basic needs like housing, food, transportation, and health care.



In Delaware, 211 is operated and funded by the United Way of Delaware and the State of Delaware. Ensuring every person has easy access to this critical resource exemplifies United Way's fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community. By dialing 2-1-1, individuals and families can find a wide range of services from crisis and emergency counseling, shelter, disaster assistance, to everyday needs like food, free tax filing services, utilities payment assistance, employment help, and so much more. Delaware 211 is a free and confidential service.

No matter the situation, Delaware 211 Specialists diligently work with residents to create judgment free and confidential environments where they listen and guide our neighbors in need to local service providers who can help. They are caring and knowledgeable professionals who are the backbone of the 211 service.

Between January 1, 2020 and January 2023, Delaware 211 responded to 161,793 requests for help and followed up with more than 13,000 persons to verify their needs were met. Top needs included Health (85% COVID-19), Financial Assistance (55% Utility Assistance), Homeless, and Basic Needs (88% Food). The benefit of Delaware 211 to the community has never been more critical than during the height of the

COVID-19 pandemic. The service expanded to 7 days a week to respond to increased demand.

Every year on February 11 (2/11) we recognize the impact and importance of Delaware 211 to our state. This edition of Feel Good Friday is dedicated to everyone who shares our passion and commitment to serve the community and support our neighbors who fight to overcome life's hardships every day. It also gives us the opportunity to thank our extraordinary 211 team who respond to thousands of requests for help with kindness and compassion.

Starting today, we kick off a month of Delaware 211 activities and messages to bring attention to this vital community service. We hope you will follow us on our social media channels and help us spread the word. And if you know someone in need, help them reach us by asking them to dial 2-1-1, text their zip code to 898-211 or visit us online at www.delaware211.org.

We look forward to having you join us as a member of the Delaware 211 family. If you are seeking other ways to help, contact 211 Manager Jennifer Fromme at jfromme@uwde.org.

Sincerely,

Donna

Donna Snyder White
Vice President, Financial Empowerment
United Way of Delaware

Join in Our Month-Long Celebration!

Starting today we kick off a month of Delaware 211 activities and messages to bring attention to this vital community service. Each of the next three issues of Feel Good Friday will contain even more team profiles, stories and news from Delaware 211. Follow us on our social media channels to meet the team and learn more about the vital services 211 provides.

Facebook [@Delaware211](#) Instagram [@delaware_211](#) Twitter [@211delaware](#)

Meet the 211 Team

Meet THE TEAM



Pictured, from left: Donna Snyder White, Jamie Naudain, Lynn Bivens, Michelle Taylor, President and CEO, United Way of Delaware, Jennifer Fromme, Debbie Finch, Denise Yorker, Patrice Bassett

Meet Jennifer, Manager, Delaware 211

"My passion is serving the community. Each day I get to do just that. Whether it's a single father struggling to pay for food or a new mother seeking support in raising her new bundle of joy, our neighbors can turn to Delaware 211 for the help they need. Deep in my heart, I know I am meant to work for Delaware 211. Aiding those in their time of need is what we do best! I am proud to be part of this amazing team!"

-Jennifer Fromme, Manager, Delaware 211



Celebrating 211 Day Through...

...Our Impact!

Delaware 211 is essential

...Our Incredible Team!

Our people greet each

... Our Partners!

Our community partners

in finding and connecting people with the resources they need.

[Click to see the video.](#)

caller with a smile and a ready ear. They are committed to help.

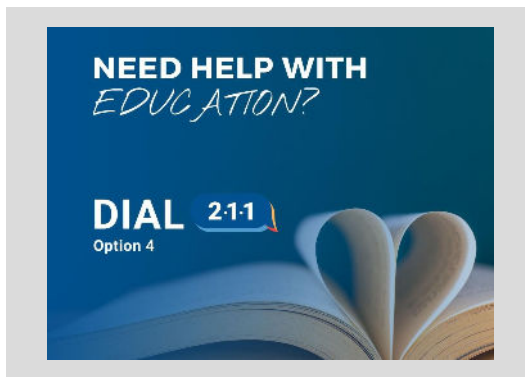
[Click to see the video.](#)

are vital to our work to meet the needs of our community.

[Click to see the video.](#)



Examples of Ways 211 Can Help



FROM THE EQUITY COUNTS DATA CENTER

Equitable Education in Delaware Has Come a Long Way, But There Is More Work To Be Done

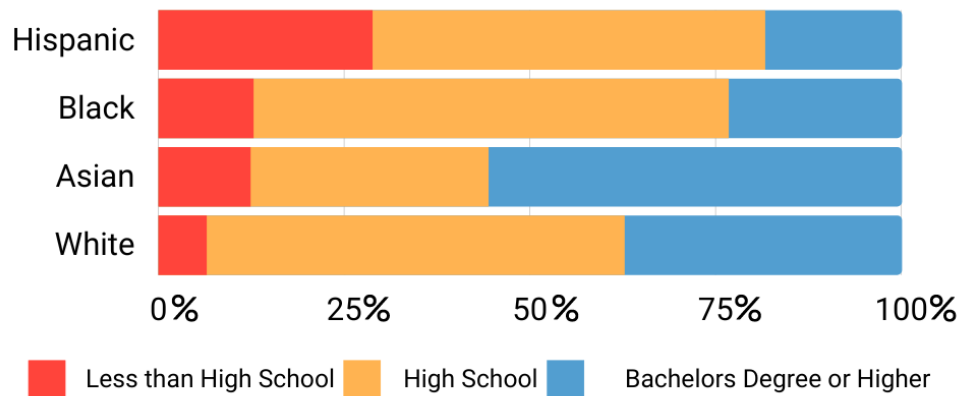
Edwina Kruse (1848-1930) and Dr. William C. Jason (1959-1943) were pioneers of Black education in Delaware. Kruse was the principal of Howard High School-- the only high school in Delaware Black residents could attend-- for 44 years beginning in 1891. Jason served as Delaware State University's first Black president from 1895 to 1923. Both Kruse and Jason fostered institutions that paved the way in education for Black Delawareans.

Despite the monumental contributions by these leaders, educational attainment gaps persist in Delaware over 100 years later.

Join the [Delaware Racial Justice Collaborative](#) to advocate for education equity in Delaware.”

DESPITE DECADES OF PROGRESS, **INEQUITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION PERSIST**

Educational Attainment in Delaware by Race
(American Community Survey-5-year estimates, 2021)



Find statistics like these and more at the [Equity Counts Data Center](#).

This initiative was supported by funds made available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, under National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities.





“A CONVERSATION WITH PARENTS”

Parents, join us for the latest event in our series "A Conversation with Parents". These conversations pertain to education, health and financial stability for your family, and provide a safe space for you to discuss issues with others and share your experiences and life lessons.

This session celebrates a continuation of Mental Health Awareness Month. Information on the programs below will be shared:

GUEST SPEAKER: Valerie Brown, The Skills Connection

SESSION DATES & TOPIC:

- **February 21st, 2023** – “We Are Connected” Lesson – Self-care and building positive relationships. Skills – Stress management, communication, resolving conflict. SEL competencies – Relationship Skills, Self-Awareness
- **March 21st, 2023** – “What Are They Thinking” Lesson – Brain science and Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) Skills – Identifying emotions, stress management. SEL competencies– Self-Awareness, Self-Management
- **April 18th, 2023** – “Be Accountable” Lesson – Preparing for self-sufficiency Skills – Organization, self-discipline, and self-regulation. SEL competencies – Self-Management, Responsible Decision Making
- **May 16th, 2023** – “Possibilities and Solutions” Lesson – Boundaries and consequences Skills – Problem solving, goal setting. SEL competencies – Responsible Decision Making

There will be a raffle for a \$40 ShopRite gift card at each session, you much attend to Win!

For more information please contact:
Mr. Ken Livingston at klivingston@uwde.org

Child Care and Dinner will be provided!



Black History Month Events

26TH AFRAM FESTIVAL PRESENTS
BLACK HISTORY
EXPO 2023

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 18TH
 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

SEAFORD DISTRICT LIBRARY
600 N. MARKET ST. EXTENDED
SEAFORD, DE 19973

CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS - AFROFASHION SHOW
ETHNIC FOOD - VENDORS - MUSIC

VENDOR FEE: \$25 - INCLUDES 1 TABLE
LIMIT OPEN TO THE FIRST 15 VENDORS

CASHAPP: SPATAJONES - FOR 2023 BLACK HISTORY EXPO

THIS EVENT IS A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE
 EASTERN SHORE AFRAM CULTURAL FESTIVAL
 THIS SUMMER ON AUGUST 12, 2023. **AFRAM**

2023 REHOBOTH BEACH
AFRICAN AMERICAN
Film Festival

*Presented by the Rehoboth Beach Film Society
 in partnership with
 The Southern Delaware Alliance for Racial Justice*

Feb. 17 - 19, 2023

Cinema Art Theater
 17701 Dartmouth Drive, Lewes, DE

DOCUMENTARIES

Friday, February 17 - 7 pm – Streetlight Harmonies
 Saturday, February 18 - 2:30 pm – A Most Beautiful Thing
 7 pm – Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America

SHORT FILMS

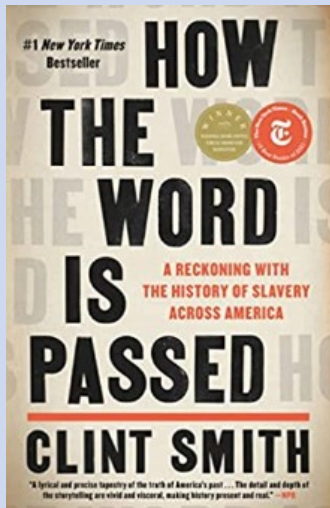
Sunday, February 19, 2 pm
 A Vanishing Legacy: Black Captains of the Chesapeake Bay
 Black Jockeys and the Kentucky Derby: A History of Race and Racism
 Street Knights (Black Chess in Washington Square Park)
 A Concerto is a Conversation
 Mr. Tindley

The Essence of Black 2/11/2023 - 11am-3pm
Hip-Hop Dance 2/15/2023 - TBD
Black Expressions 2/25/2023 - 2- 4:30 pm
Early Childhood Drama 2/28/2023 - Hidden Figures TBD

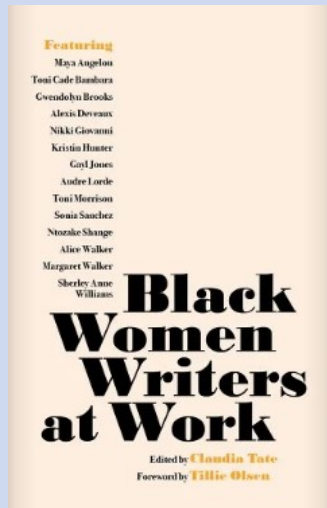
Network Connect

Black History Family Feud 2/28/2023 - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

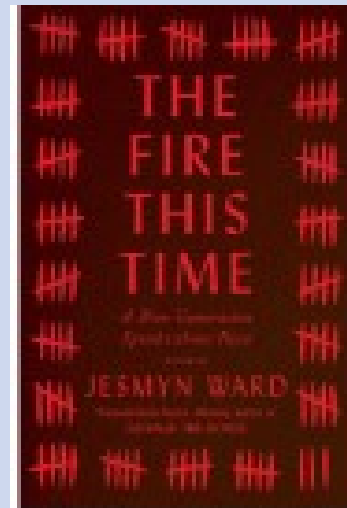
Black History Month Reading Suggestions



How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America
A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, it illustrates how some of America's most essential stories are hidden in plain view - whether in places we might drive by on our way to work, or on holidays such as Juneteenth, or in neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women and children has been deeply imprinted.



Black Women Writers at Work - (audiobook)
Candid interviews with Maya Angelou, Toni Cade Bambara, Gwendolyn Brooks, Alexis De Veaux, Nikki Giovanni, Kristin Hunter, Gayl Jones, Audre Lorde, Toni Morrison, Sonia Sanchez, Ntozake Shange, Alice Walker, Margaret Walker, and Sherley Anne Williams.
Responding to questions about why and for whom they write, and how they perceive their responsibility to their work, to others, and to society, the authors provide a window into the connections between their lives and art.



National Book Award winner Jesmyn Ward takes James Baldwin's 1963 examination of race in America, *The Fire Next Time*, as a jumping-off point for this groundbreaking collection of essays and poems about race from the most important voices of her generation and our time. She has gathered short essays, memoir, and a few essential poems to engage the question of race in the United States. And she has turned to some of her generation's most original thinkers and writers to give voice to their concerns.

Webinar Addresses the Worsening Wealth Gap

This webinar is hosted by the Delaware Statewide Social Action and Economic Development Committees of the Wilmington (DE), Dover, Sussex, and Middletown (DE) Alumnae Chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated



THE WORSENING WEALTH GAP: BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

This webinar is for anyone looking to gain information on how to drive wealth equity via home ownership and investments or who has an interest in driving legislative action to support long term change.

>> TO REGISTER:
[TINYURL.COM/WEALTHGAPWEBINAR](https://tinyurl.com/wealthgapwebinar)

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 28, 2023
7 P.M.



The 2023 Racial Equity Challenge series, powered by United Way of Delaware (UWDE), and the Delaware Racial Justice Collaborative (DRJC), is a quarterly journey of self-discovery designed to help Delawareans build more effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, power, privilege, and leadership.

For five consecutive days each quarter during 2023, participants are prompted with a daily e-mail challenge – such as reading an article, listening to a podcast, or watching a video– and are then encouraged to reflect on that content and to relate the situation to their own lives. Participants discover how racial inequity and social injustice impact our community. The goal is to build new understandings and new connections and in so doing, to begin dismantling systemic racism in Delaware.

February 20 – 24th | Implicit Bias in the Workplace

May 22nd – 26th | Implicit Bias in HealthCare

August 21st – 25th | Implicit Bias in Schools/Parenting

November 27th – December 1st | Implicit Bias in Voting

Sign up now for the 2023 Challenge!

www.deraciaequitychallenge.org

**Thank you, School Counselors,
for Helping Students Dream Big**



Join the world's newest eSport

DRONE SOCCER

DEMO & REGISTRATION DAY!

FEB. 11 @ 1PM

WALNUT STREET YMCA 1000 N. Walnut Street
Wilmington, DE 19801 - (302)472-9622

Come learn all about Drone Soccer,
a new co-ed eSport for ages 12+
that leads to STEM immersion.



Academic and competitive teams forming now!

- Players, ages 12+, fly remote controlled quadcopters designed to collide in full-contact gameplay
- STEM education
- Aerospace career training
- Drone pilot certification
- Regional, National, & International competitions



SIGN UP TODAY!

www.dronesoccer.com



100 Black Men of Delaware Presents:

1st Annual New Castle County "Best Speller" Spelling Competition

Calling all 6th Grade students throughout
New Castle County to participate

1st Place Prize \$500
2nd Place Prize \$250

JOIN US



Date: April 22, 2023

Time: Check In 10:30-11am (Competition begins at 11am)

Location: Route 9 Library (3022 New Castle Ave, New Castle DE, 19720)

Please register by using your phone
or device to scan the QR Code.

For additional information please contact
Ken Livingston at klivingston@uwde.org



Free Tax Help Now Available

UWDE partners with Nehemiah Gateway Development Corporation and First State Community Action Agency to promote FREE tax filing services in Delaware.

FREE in-person drop-off is available by appointment only. Virtual tax services are also available.

For the most current information, residents looking for free tax service can dial 2-1-1.

Learn more about the service by visiting [Nehemiah Gateway CDC](#)

Learn more about making a tax appointment [here](#)

Learn more about volunteering [here](#)

DELAWARE'S HOME FOR FREE TAX PREP

Serving those who need it most, including non-filers!

For household income \$57,000 or less, or \$0 taxable income but need to file to receive stimulus payments and child tax credit



Nehemiah GATEWAY CDC

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE TAX APPOINTMENT TODAY
NehemiahGateway.org



Scan to make a drop-off appointment!

GO VIRTUAL!

100% VIRTUAL TAX PREP

All you need is internet access, an email address, and a cell phone number.

Sign up and submit your information 24/7 from anywhere.

starting 1/24/23



Scan to Have Your Return Prepared Virtually

In conjunction with *deauthorizedfund*, powered by Code for America

DROP-OFF TAX SITES

January 23 - April 22, 2023

All sites by appointment only. Hours listed are subject to change. Please see website for up to date information.

NEW CASTLE COUNTY

Hudson State Service Center
501 Ogletown Road, Newark, DE 19711
Appointments Available:
Monday and Thursday 11am - 5pm
Wednesday 11am - 5pm

Route 9 Library & Innovation Center
3022 New Castle Ave, New Castle, DE 19720
Appointments Available:
Monday 11am - 5pm, Tuesday 5pm - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm

Wilmington Public Library
10 East 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801
Appointments Available:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am - 4pm

Woodlawn Library
2020 W 9th Street, Wilmington, DE 19805
Appointments Available:
Tuesday 5pm - 8pm, Wednesday 11am - 8pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm

University of Delaware
(near Star Campus)
Division of Professional & Continuing Services
501 S. College Avenue, Newark, DE 19716
Appointments Available starting 2/4/23:
Saturday 10am - 4pm

KENT COUNTY

Dover Public Library
35 Lookerman Plaza, Dover, DE 19901
Appointments Available:
Monday and Saturday 10am - 4pm

SUSSEX COUNTY

First State CAA
308 N Railroad Avenue, Georgetown, DE 19947
Call 302-856-7761 (Se habla Español)
Appointments Available:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am - 5pm

Georgetown on Laurel
1 East Laurel Street, Georgetown, DE 19947
Appointments Available:
Monday and Friday 9am - 1pm

Goodwill Milford
694 N. DuPont Highway, Milford, DE 19963
Appointments Available:
Tuesday 10am - 4pm
Wednesday and Thursday 10am - 1pm
Saturday 10am - 4pm

FOR A SUCCESSFUL TAX APPOINTMENT, KNOW WHAT TO BRING!

- Current Government issued photo ID for taxpayer and spouse
- W-2s, 1099s, 1099-MISC, 1099-NEC, 1099-R, 1099-SSA for all employers, retirement, and social security benefits (no pay stubs accepted)
- 1095-A for Marketplace Health Insurance Coverage
- Bank account and routing number for direct deposit
- Copy of prior-year tax return (may be required for new credits)
- Social Security cards and/or ITIN letter for everyone listed on tax return
- 6419 Advance Child Tax Credit and 6475 Economic Impact Payment (EIP) stimulus letters
- Childcare statement from all providers with address and tax ID# and/or SS# for childcare provider (or provide receipts with amounts paid)
- 1098s for education expenses paid, mortgage interest paid, property taxes paid and list of any other itemized deductions

(302) 655-0803 • (800) 560-3372 • DIAL 2-1-1 • Fast refunds! • Get a Prepaid Visa Debit Card • Open a Savings Account

Sponsored by the Delaware Tax and Financial Services Campaign founded and operated by Nehemiah Gateway Community Development Corporation in partnership with First State CAA



NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG *Discount Program*
LAUNCHED BY ALWAYS BEST CARE SENIOR SERVICES

Learn more

Register Now for *Do More 24*

Calling all nonprofits! Register now for Do More 24 Delaware -- Delaware's Largest giving day. You don't want to miss out on the chance to earn undesignated funding for your organization.

Learn more and Sign up TODAY at www.domore24de.org

Join us for
Delaware's Largest Day Of Giving

DO MORE 24 DELAWARE
 Delaware's Giving Day.

Powered by
 UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE | SPURIMPACT

MARCH 2-3, 2023

In 24 hours, Do More 24 Delaware raised over \$2.6 million for 450+ nonprofits in March 2022.
 Learn more at DoMore24Delaware.org

Support your favorite nonprofit year-round at DEGives.org

UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE | DELAWARE RACIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

2nd Annual

SAVE THE DATE BLACK STUDENT SUMMIT

The Delaware Black Student Summit is by and for students who want to turn up the volume and activism of Black Student Unions/Associations and affinity groups.

The top 3 schools with the most students in attendance will win a cash prize!

Transportation will be provided in all 3 counties.

Saturday | March 18, 2023
St. Georges Technical High School
 Middletown, DE
 Registration deadline is March 1st, 2023

Learn more at uwde.org/BSU

UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE | DELAWARE RACIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE

FDIC Seminar: Fostering Savings Behaviors in Youth

FDIC is hosting a webinar "Fostering Savings Behaviors in Delaware's Youth" on February 28, 2023 at 2 p.m.



Teaching savings lessons early in life can instill good financial habits that can last a lifetime. In recognition of America Saves Week, this virtual event will include information about the importance of establishing savings behaviors in the formative years.

The event will also feature programs that afford financial institutions, schools, youth serving community-based organizations and municipal agencies opportunities to participate in savings programs for Delaware's youth.

Register [here](#).

ANYONE WHO GIVES \$150 OR MORE TO UNITED WAY OF DELAWARE WILL BE ENTERED TO WIN A NEW

2023 KIA SELTOS | OR **\$8,000 CASH**

2 Year Lease

Participants who donates \$150 or more to the **United Way of Delaware** will be entered for a chance to win!

GIVE TODAY



Kia of Wilmington
AutoTeam Delaware

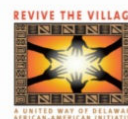


United Way of Delaware

Feb. 20 is Your Last Chance to Help Us When You Shop on Amazon!

AmazonSmile is a way customers can support United Way of Delaware at no additional cost every time they shop with Amazon. The bad news is that Amazon is ending this program on February 20. We hope you will keep us in mind until that time.

Here's how you sign up.



United Way of Delaware | 625 North Orange Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

[Unsubscribe fmclair@uwde.org](mailto:fmclair@uwde.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by leadingtheway@uwde.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!