

Montgomery County Chapter, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

**Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. inducts locals into a new
Humanitarian/Service Organization in Montgomery County**

By DIANA RAYNOR, Neighbor

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Sixteen women were inducted for membership into the newly chartered Montgomery County chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. (TLOD) on January 26, 2019, at the Silver Spring Sheraton in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The founding purpose of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. was to sponsor a youth organization after school integration was initiated. Since its founding on September 8, 1964 in Tyler Texas, the objectives have been expanded to include, not only a focus on its youth organization known as Top Teens of America, but to improve the Status of Women, service to Senior Citizens, Community Beautification and Community Partnerships.

TLOD is a nonprofit humanitarian service organization that has five major programs listed above and many ongoing projects. We partner with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Council of Negro Women, the United Negro College Fund, the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation and March of Dimes to name just a few. TLOD also focuses on scholarships, awards and literacy. Our motto is serving youth and adults.

Membership in TLOD's Top Teen of America (TTA) organization is open to teens ages 13 – 19. The teen members participate in leadership, business, educational, and cultural and mentoring programs. The TTA program specifically works to encourage high academic scholarship; enhance pride in self, home and community; encourage participation in workshops that address current trends; encourage collaborative work with other organizations to reach mutual goals and develop concern for our fellow citizens young or old.

The Montgomery Chapter of TLOD will hold interest meetings to encourage teens to join Top Teens of America starting in February of 2019. If you have a teen or know a teen that would be interested in joining this dynamic organization, you may contact Lady Tiffany Stepney, 240-603-9024 or TopTeensmoco@gmail.com for more information.

The Montgomery County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. members include: Diana Raynor - chapter organizer, TLOD national Senior Citizen Chairperson and Area II Community Partnership chairperson, Rena Batts-Elmore, Shelly Brown, Shelly Casey, Angela Cook, Debra Correia, Bernadette DeBerry, Rhonda Dedmond, Dr. B. Michelle Harris, Patricia Harris, Josephine James, Tamara Li, Terri Molyneaux, Mary Outlaw, Brenda Pullen, Tiffany Stepney, and Suzanna Williams-Valentine.