**Monthly Newsletter**

May 2021 Issue | Created By Stacy Ramirez | Edited by Rebecca Kuypers

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**Announcements**

- Happy Mother’s Day!!
- Food Drive every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month!
- You can now schedule a FREE car seat check and safety installation with PPF! Call 610-553-5531 to schedule!

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Community Baby Shower in celebration of Mother’s Day!

NEW MONTH, NEW GIVEAWAYS

On May 1st, 2021, Pettaway Pursuit Foundation partnered with Exquisite Diamonds in conducting a community baby shower. Both foundations came together and gathered diapers, formula, clothes, pads, toiletries, gift bags, and so much more! The event was quite a success! Community members were thrilled to receive necessities for their little ones and the whole family members.

MOTHER’S DAY

May is a special month as we celebrate all the women who have raised and cared for their little ones. Being a mother is a full-time job and there's never a break. From cooking meals to cleaning up toys and teaching them all about life, it can be very exhausting. Can you believe we have to choose whether to clean or take a nap while our baby takes a nap? Tough decisions I know!! As part of a celebration, Pettaway gave gift cards to its employees and independent contractors who are mothers as an appreciation of all their hard work.
HARVEST FOOF PROGRAM FUNDING

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, most Americans’ lives have been affected – people have lost their jobs and schools were on lockdown which increased food insecurity. According to FeedingAmerica.org, food insecurity can lead to chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart diseases, and obesity. Food insecurity has a more serious effect on children. It leads to the delayed of physical growth and mental health development.

Pettaway Pursuit Foundation (PPF) recognized this problem and has expanded its to increase food security. This resulted to the launched of Harvest Food Program back in May 2020.

PPF team went back from working remotely in 6 weeks to working in the building because this need. PPF partnered with Nutritional Development Services (NDS) Archdiocese of Philadelphia to provide nutritious meals to school-aged children.

Recently, PPF was awarded $25,000 from the Foundation for Delaware County to combat food insecurity in the community. With this grant, PPF is able to distribute 160 – 200 boxes of fresh produce for the remaining of 2021. The distribution will happen every 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} Monday of the month.
How did you get the idea of creating PPF? What made you choose this business?

PPF was born out my experience as a black woman who delivered three premature babies in three different stages of life (in my teen, 20's, and 30's). I have experienced the anxiety of early labor, the pain of watching my newborns in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), went through postpartum depression and a suicidal episode. As a woman of color, the access to perinatal education, support and resources were limited. I spent years overcoming these traumatic experiences while caring for my fragile babies. Thankfully, I have my faith in God and the constant love and support of my husband.

What inspired you to initiate PPF?
My experience inspired me to initiate PPF. It made me realize that women who look like me have faced the same struggles regardless of economic status, especially, the women who are socioeconomically at-risk.

How did you come up with the name?
I decided to use my family’s last name PETTAWAY because it was my PURSUIT to serve families in the community, especially the underprivileged population.

Theresa was pregnant of her 1st baby who was born at 26 weeks.
What was your mission at the outset?
At the beginning and up until now, my mission is to help and impact as many women and their families as possible with perinatal education and support, healthy birth outcomes, enhance child development, father involvement, and provide access to different resources and essential items.

What is unique about PPF?
PPF is unique among other agencies because:
❑ We are experienced forerunners for collaborating with insurance companies.
❑ We can create an a la carte-based model to meet any insurance company's needs and or goals.
❑ We are experts in serving the Medicaid and at-risk population.
❑ We have set the standard in our ability to marry the managed care insurance company and doula services.

If you had one piece of advice to someone just starting, what would it be?

“The piece of advice I can give to someone who is just starting is, your vision is always bigger than you think.”
3rd Anniversary at New Headquarter!

Since its inception day on July 23, 2001, PPF was operating at the porch of Ms. Theresa Pettaway’s house. In December 2017, PPF was able to purchase a residential house and transformed it into a business commercial space.

On May 30, 2018, PPF finally moved out from the porch to its own building.

Here’s a look from before and after the property remodel.