DELIVERERS OF WISDOM



The Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center figured out years ago that the most important stimulus for young minds came from parents and others who are in position to be role models.

So it began its 18-to-39 empowerment project, which tries to get men and women in that age group to assume leadership roles, at least in regard to their own children and others they are often around. Its purposes are parental involvement in learning, civic engagement and lifetime learning.

In weekly gatherings, BGACDC's "Deliverers of Wisdom" teach and encourage parents to share the knowledge about life and growth they have learned in the school of hard knocks: "Here are things I wish I had known when I was your age because I would be so much better off."

BGACDC had a dinner October 15 honoring its 24 Deliverers of Wisdom and many of the program's participants. Dr. Charlene M. Johnson, professor of education at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, gave a talk titled "Strength...Pay it Forward." "I tried to convey to them," said Dr. Johnson, "that there was more than one way to address challenges, and as part of the latest bearers/recipients of our African American heritage, they were privy to our cunning and creative ways to live and prosper in this life."

