

**FACTS ABOUT CHI STATE ~**

 **California State Organization**

***Historical Background***

Chi State became the 22nd State of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 1936. The Society, a service organization, was founded on May 11, 1929, in Austin, Texas, and now numbers close to 100,000 members from 17 different countries.

The Founders believed in the need of an organization in which women educators, at all

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levels, selected from among the best in the profession, might be united under Seven Purposes in order to enhance professional standards, provide support to teachers, and improve education.

The name is a combination of the initial letters of the three Greek words meaning “key women teachers”.

**WHO CAN BELONG?** Women educators who are employed in any educational position, who are self-employed educators, or who are retired from any educational position can become members.

**WHY BELONG?** The benefits of membership include opportunities for professional and personal growth through scholarships, publications, leadership seminars, workshops at conferences and conventions, recognition for professional achievements, and the collegiality of a worldwide network of women educators.

**WHAT DO MEMBERS DO?** Chi State members contribute time and service to many areas of need. DKG efforts include working with community groups, promoting desirable legislation in the interest of education and women educators, offering scholarships to members and grants to non-members, and supporting the Schools for Africa project. Additionally, other effective programs implemented in California are Learning Is For Everyone (LIFE) Foundation, Teachers Helping Another Teacher (THAT), and Jared Boxes which provide activities for hospitalized children.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** The organization is comprised of four levels: chapter, state, regional, and international, all of which are closely integrated. Members in large states convene their chapters through Areas – California has 18. The heartbeat of Society efforts is centered in Chapter activities. California has 175 Chapters and approximately 6000 members. Annual dues and vigorous fundraising support Society work at every level.

***Mission Statement ~*** *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and*

 *personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*

 ***Vision******Statement ~***  *Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.*

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