

REGIONAL BAHÁ'Í COUNCIL OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

December 27, 2016

To the Baha'is of the South Central Region

Dearest Friends,

As we engage more intensely in serving the current Five Year Plan, we are reminded of the vital strategies adopted to advance the clusters in our region. The movement of homefront pioneers—as well as friends who will arise to devote a period of service and teams who will commit to visit goal clusters in support of activities--represents an essential strategy of the current Plan of growth.

In this light, the South Central Regional Council is overjoyed to invite all believers in our region to attend a **Homefront Pioneer Gala** – an evening about homefront pioneering with our guest speaker, Mr. Hooper Dunbar. There will be three such gatherings in our region in February:

- Friday, February 17 at 6:30 pm – Austin Bahá'í Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin Ave., Austin, TX 78723
- Saturday, February 18 at 6:30 pm – Houston Bahá'í Center, 2419 Fannin Street, Houston, TX 77002
- Sunday, February 19 at 6:30 pm – Dallas Bahá'í Center, 9400 Plano Road, Dallas, TX 75238

The Council seeks your earnest and prayerful consideration to reflect and consult with your family as to the part you may play in winning the "monumental goal" given to us by the Universal House of Justice. The Supreme Body has stated that in this Plan "This combined effort should seek to raise the number of clusters where a programme of growth has become intensive to 5,000 by Ridván 2021" which means 71 clusters in the South Central Region.

Whether you are able to dedicate a few years, one year or even 3-6 months, your services are critical. We invite you to fill out a volunteer service form on the Council's website: www.southcentralcouncil.org. You will then be contacted to learn more, including specific clusters which are the highest priority and in greatest need of homefront pioneers or mobile tutors/teachers.

An additional way to support the goals of the Plan is to contribute financially and deputize others. Baha'u'llah has not only enjoined on everyone the duty of teaching His Faith, but stated if we cannot go ourselves, to send someone in our stead. Please earmark contributions for the "South Central Council – Deputization Fund."

"Today, as never before", as the beloved Guardian wrote, "the magnet which attracts the blessings from on high is teaching the Faith of God. The Hosts of Heaven are poised between heaven and earth, just waiting, and patiently, for the Bahá'í to step forth, with pure devotion and consecration, to teach the Cause of God, so they may rush to his aid and assistance."

With loving and tender Bahá'í greetings,

THE REGIONAL BAHÁ'Í COUNCIL of the SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

Regina Rafraf
Secretary