

Dr. Frankie Hurt Cooper

Educator

Dr. Frankie Hurt Cooper has been a highly successful Lincoln University of Missouri alumnus. She has earned four degrees and numerous license and certifications. Dr. Cooper earned a Bachelor of Science in Special Education from Lincoln University in 1962. She was listed in the 1962 edition of "Who's Who" in colleges and universities and selected as a Doctoral Fellow by Ball State in 1979. Dr. Cooper is also a professional clown and stand-up comedian, making people laugh is one of her trademarks.

She began her educational career as a special education teacher in Fayette, Missouri (three years) and Cairo, IL (four years). After marrying her husband, a Lincolnite, they left Cairo, IL and moved to Indianapolis. One year after teaching in the Indianapolis Public School System (IPS), she was promoted to an administrator. After receiving her doctorate, she started the Midwest Psychological Center, Inc. using her psychologist, social worker and marriage and family therapist licenses. For over 10 years, Dr. Cooper was the Executive Director and host for the Second Opinion television show.

Dr. Cooper is very visible and active in her church, service organizations and the community. She started the Parent University, which provided parents with information on topics to help family relationships and learning techniques.

For the past 13 years, Dr. Cooper has given back to the community. Three hundred women from across the city are invited to her birthday celebration the Saturday before Christmas each year. The women receive gifts, information, entertainment, lunch and chance to participate in group and line dancing.

She also has a party for all the children born on December 23rd. They also enjoy the thrill of sitting on black Santa's lap. They are given a cake and educational games to take home for them to have a private party. In addition, Dr. Cooper offers free exercise classes on Monday and Wednesday at her church, University United Methodist in Indianapolis, Indiana. Not only does she give back to her community but she is also very involved with sharing her time with others. She is the event planner for the Emancipation Day Weekend in Boonville, Missouri.

Lastly, Dr. Cooper supports maintaining and retaining Charles Sumner School, the historically black school in Boonville, MO. Over the years, she has received numerous awards and recognition from political figures, parents and citizens.