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Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Continues \$1 Million in One Day Fundraising Campaign to Support HBCUs

Despite progress and national focus, historically Black colleges and universities across the country still need public support

CHICAGO, IL (Sept. 16, 2021) – For the fourth consecutive year, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® has earmarked a progressive goal to raise \$1 million in 24 hours for their national HBCU Impact Day. Set for Monday, September 20, 2021, the annual HBCU Impact Day is a part of the sorority’s four-year \$10 million fundraising goal led by AKA International President and CEO Dr. Glenda Glover. The organization’s more than 300,000 college-educated members, corporate partners, and donors have been challenged to contribute funds to assist with the ongoing fiscal sustainability and operations of the more than 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) around the country.

“Despite the recent national attention given to HBCUs in 2021 and incremental state and federal funding, HBCUs still lag far behind other institutions of higher learning when it comes to ongoing and sustainable support,” said Dr. Glover who is also the president of Tennessee State University and an HBCU graduate.

In 2021, the sorority gifted \$1.6 million to 35 eligible four-year HBCUs. The endowments on these campuses will grow in perpetuity and help schools reduce student debt through scholarships, fund industry-specific research, and provide much-needed infrastructure maintenance.

HBCUs continue to face the double threat of a global pandemic and being under-resourced. Although the country is opening up, COVID-19 is ever evolving and brings a high level of uncertainty on whether students can safely return to campus for in-person learning. “Now more than ever is the time for Alpha Kappa Alpha to step up—as we have done for more than 113 years—and be of service to our historic institutions of higher education,” added Dr. Glover. “Currently, HBCUs account for nearly 25% of bachelor’s degrees granted to African Americans.

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I cannot imagine a world without HBCUs, but I can imagine how much stronger the world would be if we all supported the HBCU community.”

Members and supporters have surpassed the \$1 million goal. Last year’s Impact Day raised \$1.3 million in 2020.

HBCU Impact Day is part of the sorority's recognition of HBCU Week. On September 20, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority chapters around the globe will host fundraising events in support of the \$1 million fundraising goal. Interested donors can make contributions by giving by mail or online at <http://donate.akaef.org> during the 24-hour campaign. For more information on the sorority’s commitment to HBCUs, visit www.AKA1908.com

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About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization that was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African-American, college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of over 300,000 members in more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Liberia, Bahamas, Bermuda, the Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Germany, South Korea, South Africa, and in the Middle East. Led by International President and Chief Executive Officer, Glenda Glover Ph.D., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated is often hailed as "America's premier Greek-letter organization for African-American women."

Visit www.aka1908.com for more information.

About the AKA Educational Advancement Foundation

Over 40 years ago, the Educational Advancement Foundation was established by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to promote lifelong learning. It is now the largest minority owned women's foundation in the country with assets totaling over \$22.7 million. The foundation has donated over \$6.5 million for scholarships, fellowships, and community assistance grants and is an organization with a rich and distinguished history of service that spans nearly a century. Creating the Educational Advancement Foundation was the method by which Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. sought to ensure that there would always be support for education, its oldest program of service. Today, the Foundation, a financially strong and viable organization, is a powerful tool for good, pooling the resources of others who share this vision of providing a perpetual source of support for education.

Alpha Kappa Alpha implements an AKA HBCU Endowment Initiative in partnership with EAF, in

which an endowed scholarship will be established at each accredited four-year HBCU. The goal is to stamp the Alpha Kappa Alpha brand of financial support on each HBCU campus to help students remain in school, complete their course of study, and receive their college degrees.

For more information about the Educational Advancement Foundation, please visit www.akaef.org.