



## NEWS RELEASE

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## MID-ATLANTIC REGION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED® CELEBRATES COMMUNITY LEADERS DURING PUBLIC MEETING *Members from North Carolina and Virginia Convening in Raleigh*



RALEIGH, N.C.—The Mid-Atlantic Region of [Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®](#) – the oldest service organization founded by college-educated African American women in 1908– celebrated the accomplishments of leaders committed to social justice, community empowerment and the environmental at the Public Meeting that opened the 70<sup>th</sup> Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Raleigh, N.C., on March 23, 2023. The conference began Thursday, March 23, and runs through Sunday, March 26, 2023, at the Raleigh Convention Center. More than 5,300 members are registered.

Community members were honored for their contributions under five of the sorority’s six programs that are part of Alpha Kappa Alpha’s International [Program Initiatives](#):

- **Karolyn Martin**, Miss North Carolina, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, for the organization’s Empower Our Families program initiative;
- **Chrystal Fray Davis**, an agent for State Farm Insurance in Wilmington, N.C., for more than 30 years, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, for her work under the Build Our Economic Wealth Initiative;
- The **Sigma Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha** Greensboro, N.C., for its Ivy Garden Club Garden, a local community garden in partnership with the City of Garden, for the Enhance Our Environment Initiative;
- The **Rev. Dr. Jonathan C. Augustine**, pastor of St. Joseph AME Church in Durham, N.C., for his efforts in the Advocate for Social Justice initiative; and
- **Shirnetta J. Harrell**, founder and CEO of The No Women Initiative, and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha, was recognized for the sorority’s Uplift Our Local Community initiative.



LeVelle Moton, head coach of the men’s basketball team at North Carolina Central University, received the Citizen of the Year Award from the Region. Moton’s local community outreach include his Annual Back to School Community Day Event and Velle Cares Foundation, among other partnerships that uplift underserved communities in Raleigh and the Triangle region.

“This evening marks the start of the historic Marvelous Mid-Atlantic Region’s 70<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference in the City of Oaks,” said Nadine Vargas Stewart, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director for Alpha Kappa Alpha.

“This milestone comes the same year that we are celebrating a momentous anniversary for Alpha Kappa Alpha. Over the years, we have a measurable impact in the lives of the communities that we serve through our both undergraduate and graduate chapters, all while furthering our sisterhood,” she stated. “We count it as a privilege that more than 5,200 members are in Raleigh and will engage in the business of Alpha Kappa Alpha over the next four day-- all while making a direct, sizable economic impact of more than \$2.4 million dollars in Raleigh and Wake County.”

“It’s great to help the Alpha Kappa Alpha Mid-Atlantic Region sisters celebrate their anniversary,” North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper said. “Their dedication to service has helped to make North Carolina and Virginia an even stronger place for 70 years, and I am excited for 70 more.” Governor Cooper presented a state proclamation to the region honoring their milestone anniversary.

Members will participate in a community service project titled, “Creating a Home Away From Home,” which will provide thousands of donated supplies—including blankets, personal care toiletries and other essential items—to five long-term care and residential facilities in the Triangle Region: Sunnybrook Rehabilitation Center; PruittHealth Raleigh; Raleigh Rehabilitation Center; Capital Nursing & Rehabilitation Center; and Wake Assisted Living Memory Care Center.

A presentation of donated supplies for Mid-Atlantic Region’s “Creating a Home Away From Home” community service initiative will take place on **Friday, March 24, 2023, from 1:15-1:30 p.m., in Room 304** at the Raleigh Convention Center. Managers from all five residential care and assisted living facilities will be on location to accept the donations.

Photos of the Public Meeting are available [here](#).

A media kit, including a fact sheet on the Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha and biography on Nadine Vargas Stewart, is available [here](#).

### ***About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® and the Mid-Atlantic Region***

[Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®](#) (AKA), a 115-year-old international service organization founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. Comprised of more than 325,000 members who hail from 1,060 graduate and undergraduate chapters worldwide, Alpha Kappa Alpha is the nation’s oldest Greek letter organization established by African American college-educated women. The Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® has 130 chapters and 13,000 members in North Carolina and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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