



# ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED®



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## PRESS RELEASE

### **International Sorority Leaves a Lasting Impact on Local Community**

*92<sup>nd</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference Donates Food to Africatown and Raises Funds for Scholarships*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mobile, AL (March 15, 2024) – The South Eastern Region (SER) of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Incorporated® recently announced \$270,000 in scholarship funds to support the higher education pursuits of students. The announcement was made during the organization’s 92<sup>nd</sup> South Eastern Regional conference in Mobile, AL, March 7 - 10, 2024, at which approximately 4,500 attendees convened.

The organization presented scholarship awards totaling \$155,000 to seven historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in Mississippi, which included allocations to five established endowments. Also, a contribution of \$105,000 from the Alabama Kar-tag Action Fund will benefit endowments of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Education Advancement Foundation® (EAF) for 21 AKA undergraduate chapters in the state of Alabama. Each chapter’s endowment fund will receive \$5,000. This is the second consecutive year that the funds have been allocated. When fully funded, the endowments’ interest earnings will fund scholarships for deserving students in Alabama.

Additionally, conference participants raised \$10,000 to benefit EAF, a fund that has been actively working to help students pay for higher education since 1980.

In keeping with AKA’s legacy of serving, the attendees brought 50,780 non-perishable food items to the conference for the Africatown Food Pantry to benefit individuals in the Mobile area. This effort aligned with the organization’s Empower Our Families initiative which aims to fortify families by addressing child hunger and promoting positive youth development and leadership, mental well-being, and senior life.

“It is gratifying to support and sustain our organization’s 116-year legacy of service,” said South Eastern Regional Director Tracey Morant Adams. “Our members experienced powerful and impactful moments during the 92<sup>nd</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference. We are grateful to the volunteers, speakers, and corporate and community partners who contributed to this successful outcome,” said Adams.

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AKA's commitment to fostering collaboration and collectively driving positive change in local communities was further demonstrated during the conference as the organization recognized and celebrated local community leaders and organizations for their commitment to service and significant local contributions. Honorees included Mayor Billy E. Knight, Sr., The Freedom Quilting Bee, Lamar and Chiquitta Howard, Edward Mosley, Alabama State House Representative Thomas Jackson, Judge Carol Jones Russell, and Miss Alabama Brianna Burrell.

In addition to business meetings, workshops and other training sessions, notable speakers included Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® International President Danette Anthony Reed; Emmy-award nominated television host, attorney, and best-selling author, Star Jones; Rev. Traci D. Blackmon; and gospel music artist Minister Byron Cage, who is known as “the Prince of Praise.”

Generous sponsor support and commitment were instrumental in the overall success of the conference. The following sponsors played a pivotal role in the execution of the conference: Renasant Bank, Visit Mobile, Mobile County Commission, City of Mobile, Birmingham Business Resource Center, Stand Up Mobile, and Wind Creek Hospitality.

According to Adams, members of the South Eastern Region departed the conference and returned to their local communities with renewed energy to serve and build on the momentum generated during the conference.

The 93<sup>rd</sup> South Eastern Regional Conference will be in Knoxville, Tennessee in 2025.

#### **About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®**

Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Incorporated®, an international service organization, was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek letter organization established by African American college-educated women. AKA is comprised of over 300,000 members in 1,061 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, Liberia, the Bahamas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Germany, South Korea, Bermuda, Japan, Canada, South Africa, and the Middle East.

#### **About South Eastern Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®**

The South Eastern Region (SER) of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is one of 10 regions. SER is composed of three states: Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. Within the region, there are approximately 116 undergraduate and graduate chapters serving over 14,000 members. Annually, the members perform service projects to enhance and improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities.