



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. TO CONVENE 88th
REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO**

CHICAGO -- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® will host its 88th Central Regional Conference (CRC) in Chicago, March 17 – 20 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The four-day gathering is expected to bring 2,800 sorority members to the Windy City and is one of the first in-person events the sorority has held since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We have worked diligently to adhere to the COVID-19 protocols and mandates set in place by elected officials and health professionals,” said Central Regional Director Sonya L. Bowen. “Now that we have turned the corner in this fight, and are able to convene in-person conferences while continuously observing modified safety protocols, we are excited to welcome our members and guests to our hometown to sample Chicago-style hospitality.”

Under the banner of the conference’s theme of “A Charmed Life: A Taste of Excellence in the Windy City,” members from across the eight-state region will conduct the business of the sorority; implementing programs focused on five international targets.

Those targets include “HBCU for Life: A Call to Action,” in support of the country’s historically Black institutions of higher education; #CAP, the sorority’s signature program providing counseling, mentoring and motivation for young people navigating the college admissions process; women’s healthcare and wellness; building an economic legacy; the arts; and maintaining a global impact.

In support of its global impact target, the Central Region will host the Allstate Community Health Pavilion at Malcom X College, 1900 W. Jackson Blvd., on Friday, March 18. Area residents will have access to blood pressure, diabetes and prostate cancer screenings, hearth health checks, mammograms, COVID-19 and HIV testing, as well as flu, shingles, and COVID-19 vaccines.

The pavilion will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For those who cannot access the pavilion, the Central Region will be sending mobile units to Chicagoland shelters and tent cities to provide residents with care packages.

The sorority will also host two virtual community service projects during the conference in partnership with Soles 4 Souls™, and Pillowcase Shirts for boys, benefitting children and adults in third world countries.

“One of the hallmarks of our international organization is the service we render in response to individual and community need,” said Bowen. “And in many cases the communities are the ones next door, as well as those on the next continent. For Alpha Kappa Alpha, service is a global mandate.”

In addition to hosting community service events, the sorority will have a Public Meeting to honor local organizations whose services are in line with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® programs. The Public Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 18 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha who hold excellent academic records, maintain proven leadership skills, and continuous involvement in local communities throughout Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the cities of St. Louis and Cape Girardeau will attend the conference, along with sorority leaders from throughout the United States.

The Central Region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the southeastern portion of Missouri. There are more than 95 Chapters that call the Central Region home. The first Central Regional Conference was held in Indianapolis on May 23, 1931.

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 nearly 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 Glenda Glover PhD, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, is often hailed as “America’s premier Greek-letter organization for African American women.” For more information on Alpha Kappa Alpha and its programs, visit www.aka1908.com.

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