

# THE Columns

OUR MISSION: The Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation impacts and enriches our communities by providing essential support for education, philanthropy and leadership.



JOIN US FOR THE FOUNDATION'S FIFTH  
ANNUAL DAY OF GIVING ON  
WEDNESDAY,  
**March 22, 2023!**



FALL 2022  
Volume LXVIII

## WELCOME TO OUR LOYAL DONORS

Alpha Gamma Delta is loving, leading and lasting thanks to our loyal donors. This newsletter is published to share your impact, and to thank you for believing in our Foundation's mission of providing essential support for women's education, philanthropy and leadership. 🍷

### ALPHA GAMS ARE *Loving*



#### PUTTING OUR PURPOSE INTO ACTION

In 1904, 11 foresightful women in Syracuse, New York, made a commitment that members of the brand-new Alpha Gamma Delta Fraternity would serve their communities. Almost 120 years later, as the first women's fraternity to establish its own philanthropic cause, our members remain steadfast to our Founders' vision, fighting hunger through community service and financial support.

In May 2022, when Tops supermarket in Buffalo, New York, became the site of a mass shooting, our Purpose called us to take action in the community where our collegiate sisters of Alpha Alpha-University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, and our alumnae sisters of the Greater Buffalo Alumnae Chapter are placed.

Tops serves as a lifeline to Buffalo's East Side neighborhood and is the only full-scale supermarket in the area. When the store shut

down, the community, which was already considered a food desert, no longer had access to one of its primary food sources.

FeedMore WNY (Western New York), a local hunger-relief organization, quickly organized food distribution efforts and faced an estimated \$3.5 million in hunger-relief expenses in the first month following the shooting.

Thankful for the commitment of our sisters to the cause and inspired by our members' hearts of service, the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation awarded a \$20,000 emergency Fighting Hunger Grant to FeedMore WNY.

"Being able to help provide [support] to charities and nonprofits that help provide food security to families is a big deal," FeedMore WNY Chief Communications Officer Collin Bishop said. "You're helping those families, you're making sure that children are prepared for their future and you're making a big difference for a lot of people all over the country."

This past year, Alpha Gam collegiate members completed 108,648 hours of community service, and through the generosity of our donors, the Foundation awarded \$270,000 in grants toward the fight against hunger. Although we cannot erase what happened at Tops, we hope our contributions help FeedMore continue services so their community can begin to heal.

Today, Tops supermarket is reopened, and the Buffalo community is working to improve food accessibility in the area.

Thank you to our collegiate chapters, alumnae and friends for contributing to the Foundation and volunteering in our communities so organizations, like FeedMore WNY, can meet the growing needs of those they serve.

Do you volunteer or work with a hunger-relief organization?  
Encourage them to apply for a Fighting Hunger Grant. Applications open December 1, 2022.

8710 N Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46260



## ALPHA GAMS ARE *Leading*



### TOGETHER AGAIN FOR ACA

Kicking off Alpha Gamma Delta's 51st International Convention, more than 70 alumnae leaders met for a day of personal development and growth at the 2022 Academy for Chapter Advisors.

Grateful to be in person for the first time since 2018, attendees heard from Tina VanSteenbergen, Beta Omicron-Illinois State University; Polaris Consulting's Dr. Daryl Cioffi Appleton, Gamma Zeta-University of Memphis and Jennifer Weaver, LMHC, Theta Nu-Virginia Commonwealth University; and Linnita Hosten.

The key message of ACA was clear: to build strong leaders, you must be a strong leader, and now more than ever, women need women. Keynotes focused on the needs of today's college students, effective communication, boundary setting and "leading from the passenger's seat."

Chapter Advisors are essential to the well-being of the chapters they serve and invaluable for the ways in which they inspire generations of Alpha Gam members. They empower chapter officers and model strong, intentional leadership and sisterhood to our members every day.

Thanks to our donors, the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation sponsored all three keynote speakers at ACA.

## ALPHA GAMS ARE *Lasting*



### CARMEN MUIRHEID AUERBACH SCHOLARSHIP

Alpha Gamma Delta's sisterhood is lasting and extends far beyond our collegiate years. For new scholarship endowment donor Carmen Muirheid Auerbach, Beta Iota-Eastern Illinois University, college was just the beginning of her Alpha Gam story.

Carmen is a member of the first Beta Iota new member class. She remembers her collegiate experience lovingly and has learned the true meaning of sisterhood throughout her years as an alumna. Her DuPage Area Alumnae Club sisters are her

chosen family and have supported her throughout her most difficult seasons of life.

"My sorority sisters...have been my cherished friendships that I've depended on when I went through cancer and heart surgery and when my husband died," Carmen said. "They're my family, and I chose them because they have the same ideals that I do. They've become my closest friends."

Carmen frequently hosts her DuPage Area Alumnae Club sisters at her home, where they connect alongside the infamous squirrel collection she's been curating since Alpha Gam's 1991 Convention in Florida.

Carmen's alumnae experience proves that sisterhood endures as we experience life's most cherished and challenging moments. She established her scholarship with hopes of creating a lasting legacy. Her goal is to give back, so younger generations can experience the same love and support her DuPage sisters gave her. She hopes her scholarship will allow recipients to create "a good, fun life that contains Alpha Gam always."

Thank you, Carmen, for investing in the future of our members and creating a legacy of sisterhood and academic support. Are you interested in creating your own legacy? If you or a group of sisters want to establish an endowment fund, please contact Executive Director Julie Waitman at 317.663.4242.

## FOUNDATION *News*

### CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE JEWEL SOCIETY

For 30 years, the Jewel Society has recognized the Foundation's most loyal and generous individual donors. As we celebrate 30 years of dedication to our sisterhood, we also reflect on how Alpha Gamma Delta, and the lives of her members, have changed.

Kay Taylor Donahue, Upsilon-University of Oklahoma, and Dee Ann Elliott Woodall, Upsilon-University of Oklahoma, have been Jewels since the program began. Both women embody true sisterhood and what it means to invest in the future of our members and communities.

"This is one way I can honor my sisters who are living or have gone to Chapter Grand," Kay said. "Their contributions have made our sisterhood strong, even during difficult times. Their wisdom has kept us growing!"

In 1992, Kay launched the brand-new Jewel Society while serving as Foundation President; Dee Ann had just finished her service as Grand Vice President Alumnae. Back then, the average cost of attending a public university was \$6,019. Today, the average total cost is \$24,244 for public universities and \$51,690 for private universities.

The gap is growing between the gifts we receive and the needs of those we serve. We believe there is no better time to address this need and increase our impact. So, for the first time in three decades, the Jewel Society is expanding to better serve our members and communities.

Please join the Jewel Society at its new levels: \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. Our newest giving society, the Pearl Circle, will recognize sisters and friends who donate \$500-\$999.

Every gift to the Foundation makes an impact. Your giving is an investment in generations to come. On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your generosity and commitment to our sisterhood.



### MAKE YOUR CALENDAR YEAR-END GIFT!



A growing number of sisters and friends donate through the following giving vehicles because of ease and tax benefit. Always consult with a tax professional to discuss the options best for you.

Amazon Smile

Gifts of Appreciated Stock

Donor Advised Funds

IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

### THE 2021-22 GRATITUDE REPORT IS LIVE!

We are so excited to share the 2021-22 Gratitude Report with you.

This year, our members faced innumerable challenges, and with support from their Alpha Gam sisters, they also achieved incredible success. This year, Alpha Gams were unstoppable.

Scan the QR code below to learn more about the out-of-this-world ways our donors are impacting the lives of our members and communities.



## MAKE YOUR LASTING GIFT *Today*

SEND DONATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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Indianapolis, IN 46260  
P 317.663.4242  
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