Dear Sigma Kappa sisters,

Our world is changing quickly as we navigate unprecedented circumstances. It’s hard to embrace all that is happening when there is still so much uncertainty. We understand how you are feeling and know each of you is working hard to support those around you. I want to express my deep appreciation for stepping up during this crisis. I encourage you to remain positive, lead with fearlessness and find ways to practice small acts of kindness as we develop new ways to engage and stay connected. May we all continue to support one another by modeling calm in the midst of this stressful and tense atmosphere.

As of this communication, all 122 Sigma Kappa chapters have been impacted by campus closures and online instruction. Because each campus is handling the situation differently, we are asking chapters to work with their volunteers to address questions and prioritize the guidance provided by their college/university and public health officials.

Sigma Kappa’s national council, National Housing Corporation board, Foundation board of trustees and staffs continue to discuss the anticipated impact from COVID-19. Our immediate priorities in the coming days include:

- Regular communication with the chapters and advisors, supporting the specific needs of each chapter/campus.
- Working with NHC staff and volunteers, including sorority-supervised housing volunteers, to support our housing corporations.
- Exploring ways to remain connected to sisters from a distance.
- Monitoring the rapidly changing situation and following guidance from the federal government, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the World Health Organization as convention approaches. Convention is still scheduled for June 17-20 in Tucson, AZ. Registration is open! For more information visit the convention webpage.
  - We do ask, however, that you hold off booking flights for the time being. We will provide additional information in the next few weeks.
- Sisters will be impacted financially in the days and weeks ahead, and the Foundation is prepared to help! The Foundation offers emergency grants for both collegians and alumnae in extreme need. Applications are available on our website.
- If you are able to help sisters, donations can be made to the following funds:
  - Alumnae Heart Fund https://sigmakappa.org/foundation/ahf
  - Collegiate Emergency Fund https://sigmakappa.org/foundation/ceg
  - PULSE Fund https://sigmakappa.org/foundation/give-now/

As of March 16, Sigma Kappa headquarters staff transitioned to a remote structure until at least May 1. Although staff is working in remote locations, it’s business as usual. They
have implemented several processes to minimize any impact to operations. Details of that message can be found here.

As leaders in our communities, we must take substantial action and follow the recommendations that can make a difference for the world around us. Know that we will make timely decisions in the best interest of our members, volunteers, staff and the organization at large and keep you informed. Thank you for your continued assistance and patience as we work through plans to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus on Sigma Kappa.

Future updates and resources will be posted to the Sigma Kappa COVID-19 webpage. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact covid@sigmakappa.org.

More than ever, we need to remain connected to one another. Observing social distancing best practices doesn't mean you have to feel alone. If you haven't already, start regular check-ins with your sisters and friends. I'd love to hear from you too!

Take good care of yourselves and stay healthy.

Sara Seely Chacon
National President