



## *Alpha Phi Foundation*

In 1946, following the conclusion of World War II, Alpha Phi officially selected cardiac aid as its first-ever peacetime philanthropy. By 1948, Alpha Phi had raised more than \$16,000 for cardiac aid. This commitment to heart health led to the creation of the Alpha Phi Foundation in 1956.

The Alpha Phi Foundation is one of the oldest women's fraternal foundations. Today, it is well known and respected internationally as a preeminent philanthropic leader in the Greek community.

The Foundation's mission to support women's heart health is targeted to bring awareness to heart disease as the number one killer of women in North America. Alpha Phi is proud to be at the forefront of educating women of all ages about the need to care for their hearts. Through the generosity of alumnae and donors, Alpha Phi Foundation funds research and educational programs that support the advancement of women's heart health.

The annual Heart to Heart Grant awards grants to medical professionals to better understand heart disease in women—specifically its symptoms, treatment and prevention. Since its inception in 1993, the grant has funded over 30 cutting-edge projects focused on the improvement of women's cardiovascular care.

In 2018, the Heart to Heart Grant went to a Connecticut institution, the Yale School of Medicine. Yale School of Medicine used the grant to fund the #DIGIN project in partnership with The Patient Revolution. This project was used to design decision aids for women when considering statin therapy as preventative treatment for heart disease and stroke.

# Sacred Heart Alpha Phi Philanthropy & Service

Each Alpha Phi chapter raises funds for the Alpha Phi Foundation through campus and community events, and in 2024-2025, collegiate chapters **raised more than \$2.2 million** for the Foundation.

An Alpha Phi chapter at Sacred Heart University will have the opportunity to **create their own philanthropic events** to support women's heart health. Alpha Phi chapters host a variety of types of events and will select their events based on what will work best for the chapter and campus. Sacred Heart Panhellenic chapters have a strong legacy of successful events that support their philanthropic efforts in the Fairfield community. We anticipate that the chapter's largest philanthropy event of the year would be their **Red Dress Gala**. The majority of Alpha Phi chapters hold these events that typically include a dinner and live and silent auctions. Alpha Phis, families, alumnae, the Fraternity and Sorority community, faculty and staff come together to wear red and raise money in support of women's heart health and other initiatives. In addition to their Red Dress Gala, the Sacred Heart chapter will likely have **several other philanthropy events** throughout the year similar to your chapters. These could include food and sports-based events like Mac-n-Phis, Alpha Phifa, Phi Ball or something they dream up!

In addition to philanthropy events, Alpha Phi chapters are involved in their communities, with partners that our membership selects. In the first semester, the **Sacred Heart chapter will establish a relationship with a local organization** where members volunteer. We would anticipate the chapter might choose to support the **American Heart Association of Westchester and Fairfield Counties** or the **YNHH Heart and Vascular Center at Bridgeport Hospital**. A relationship may be established through the **\$1,000** new chapter installation grant from the Alpha Phi Foundation or developed through a relationship already made by a sister who is a community volunteer.