

## To Whom It May Concern:

The Beta Xi Chapter of Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Incorporated is excited about our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual fundraising event, *Esperanza Gala: A DACA Scholarship Initiative*. DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, is a program that provides temporary relief from deportation and a renewable 2-year work permit for qualified young adults who were brought to the U.S. as children. Although it is not a path to citizenship, DACA makes a big difference for youth—especially in South Carolina where it means they can pursue higher education.

The state of South Carolina prohibits undocumented students from attending any public postsecondary institution, but since DACA recipients have a lawful presence, they are eligible to enroll in public colleges and universities. Unfortunately, the students who are accepted into these colleges and universities are not able to receive in-state tuition, even if they are South Carolina residents. Out-of-state tuition is usually double then instate tuition and for most low-income applicant youth, this is a huge barrier they must overcome before continuing their education.

Our goal last year was to raise enough money for five DACA applications, and we exceeded that goal by raising enough money to allow six people to apply for a DACA status, which was a total of \$2,790. This year our goal is to exceed that amount and raise a minimum of \$3,000 in order to provide scholarships to students who already have a DACA status. We are not sure what the future of the DACA program will be, but currently there are over 16,000 people in South Carolina who would benefit from this scholarship initiative.

We firmly believe that communities become great and businesses thrive when equality of opportunity is deemed important, because the lives of its citizens are enriched. The Beta Xi Chapter of Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Incorporated seeks to provide such enrichment to the community by promoting educational, cultural, civic, and economic opportunities for Latino undocumented youth through this initiative. We believe that through this financial scholarship we can cultivate the skills and talents of high school students to become leaders for the betterment of their communities.

We invite you to join us as we strive to carry out our mission. We hope to see you on Sunday, April 22, 2017 at the Russell House Ballroom at 1400 Greene St. Columbia, SC 29201 from 6:00–10:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased <u>online</u> and any donations can be made through our <u>GoFundMe</u> page. Your donations may be fully tax-deductible because we are a 501(c) (3) non-profit entity and we will be happy to send you a donation letter for your records.

If you have any questions, please contact Lizeth Morales at (347) 791-1466 or betaxi@kappadeltachi.org. We thank you in advance for considering this request and look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Lizeth Morales President Kappa Delta Chi Sorority Inc. University of South Carolina.