



Iota Sigma Housing Corporation

September 2009

From: Iota Sigma Housing Corporation Board

To: All Iota Sigma Brothers

Brothers-

We hope this finds you well.

We received very good news concerning the strength of our undergraduate chapter. In the past school year, Iota Sigma achieved 1st place in grades, won the Dr. Alan Harre Civic Engagement award for community service and involvement, while being recognized by the University with the prestigious President's Award of Achievement. Their successes were reinforced by drawing the largest pledge class of all fraternities on campus, a testament to our continued strength there.

We, as alumni, have an opportunity to support the continued success of Iota Sigma and invest in the lives of future Sigs to come. For the past 18 months, the re-formed Iota Sigma Housing Corporation has taken a number of steps to move forward in its support of the chapter—both for the near and long-term. We have resolved tax issues and financial records, re-established the ISHC's relationship with the University, worked with local realtors to gain a better understanding of the local market, and prepared a plan to move the organization forward.

In 2008, we listened to comments from alumni and undergraduates alike to identify chapter needs and then performed extensive research on options that would help meet the housing and 'space' challenges of the undergraduate chapter. At Homecoming, we presented an action plan that was endorsed by the brothers in attendance and then later by those online. That plan (see attached) charts a course from a small investment to a larger one.

The ultimate goal is to be able to provide a first class facility that not only houses undergraduates, but also provides spaces to study, eat, gather, and socialize. To leap from the current situation—nothing--to a facility that can accommodate all of those needs is not feasible. Instead, we have set a plan that will help us reach that goal. The concept is relatively simple—start small, demonstrate success, and build on those successes.

The first step would be purchasing an investment property that could be rented to seniors. Doing so would allow us to re-invest rental income currently being captured by local Valpo landlords back to the chapter. We, as alumni, would build equity in our investment and gain experience managing a house as an organization.

We have set an initial goal of raising \$60,000 for the acquisition of this property. (To see a breakdown of how those funds would be used, see the attached document.) After some discussion, we are asking

for brothers to make a two year commitment pledge to the effort. We believe it is important for these efforts to be ongoing and sustainable, not a one-time event. It is only through a sustained capital fundraising effort that we can meet our goals.

No doubt, we could not have picked a worse time to kickoff a capital fundraising campaign. Your mailboxes are likely full of requests from a variety of organizations that seek your support. That said, we feel the effort is an important one for the chapter. Iota Sigma provided a tremendous experience for each of us, and we each feel that the long-term health of the chapter could be greatly supported and enhanced by this effort.

The course of our chapter history has seen several attempts by the alumni to begin a successful fundraising campaign. We have made good progress over the last 18 months and we feel a good foundation is now in place. There is no way to finally realize our goal of a permanent fraternity house unless we have a clean start; we believe the time to do so is now.

Please take a moment and consider a two-year commitment to the Iota Sigma Housing Corporation in support of the undergraduate chapter. Commitments large and small are both needed with a goal of 100% alumni participation. We ask that you simply:

- 1) Pledge - Email the attached pledge form or just email your total two year pledge to aaron_gin@yahoo.com.
- 2) Pay –
 - a. Check (preferred) - Send a check with your first year pledge to Aaron Gin, 4600 Eyota Drive NW Albuquerque, NM 87120 or
 - b. Pay Pal - Log on to <http://www.iotasigma.org/donate.html> to make a Pay Pal payment for your first year pledge or
 - c. Credit Card - Contact Aaron Gin at 505-404-0492 and he'll process your credit card pledge

We welcome your pledge and support of Iota Sigma of Sigma Chi.

Thank you and Guard Well,

The Iota Sigma Housing Corporation Board

Mark Knueppel, President
David Martens, Vice President
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Evan Gaertner, At-Large
Chris Shaffer, At-Large