

2025 RUBY FUND MESSAGE

ALPHA OMICRON PI *Foundation*

Sisters,

As we gather to celebrate another Founders' Day, we are reminded of the strength of Alpha Omicron Pi sisterhood. AOII is not just a bond—it's a lifelong promise that we will support one another through life's toughest moments. One of the clearest ways we live out this promise is through the Ruby Fund, a lifeline for sisters facing unexpected crises.

For over 75 years, the Ruby Fund has extended a helping hand to sisters in need, offering grants to support them through life's most challenging moments. From natural disasters like Hurricane Helene and Milton to financial crises, from illness to personal tragedy, the Ruby Fund steps in when our sisters need it most. This fund reflects the very heart of AOII—it is sisterhood in action, offering hope, comfort, and relief when there seems to be no way forward. For 2023-2024, we're proud to have provided more than \$83,000 in grants to 26 sisters in need.

The impact of the Ruby Fund is deeply personal to me. Many years ago, I found myself laid off from my job with a young family to support. A sister encouraged me to apply for the Ruby Fund, and although I hesitated at first, I am so grateful that I listened. The relief I felt was immediate. In that moment of uncertainty, the Ruby Fund allowed me to breathe, to hope, and to know that I wasn't alone.

Years later, when a dear sister's home sustained damage from a tornado, I encouraged her to apply, reminding her that seeking assistance was not a sign of weakness, but a reflection of the strength in our sisterhood. The Ruby Fund was there for her as well—helping her bridge the gap until more help arrived. That pay-it-forward moment showed me once again the true spirit of AOII.

What I've learned through my own experience and by serving on the Ruby Fund Committee is that this fund is more than just financial aid; it is a living embodiment of our ritual and values. It is a reflection of the love and commitment we have for one another as sisters of AOII.

This year, I ask you to think about the power of that love. When you give to the Ruby Fund, you are not just donating money—you are giving a sister the ability to breathe again. You are offering hope in the darkest moments. Whether it's helping a sister battling a terminal illness, supporting a collegian striving to stay in school, or assisting an alumna rebuilding in the wake of a disaster, your contribution today will change a life. This Founders' Day, I urge you to give back—to continue the legacy that started with our very first recipient, Founder Stella George Stern Perry, and to ensure that every sister in need feels the love and support that defines AOII.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable sisterhood and for spreading Alpha Love by supporting the Ruby Fund.

Alpha Love and Mine,

Becky Gamble

Gamma Sigma, Ruby Fund Committee 2023-2025



Sisters – if you would like to give to the Ruby Fund, scan the QR code to donate today!

