

2024 – 2025 Chapter Project Stipends



- 1. Alpha Beta Area 13** *First Steps Blessings & Hunger Happens Here* **\$1,000.00**
This chapter submitted 2 projects in one application. Many of us were first year teachers and remember the struggle to get our classrooms up and running! This chapter's first endeavor is to award gift cards to 3 brand new teachers in their area. Chapter members will be adopting these "newbies" to mentor and support them through the year in various ways! And hopefully recruiting them as NEW DKG members through various events!!! Their 2nd endeavor is to help high school homeless students in their area. These are students that have self-identified as homeless due to a variety of situations that range from being kicked out of their home due to gender identity, pregnancy, family violence, and some due to age are not allowed in family shelters. The plan is to give gift cards for fast food restaurants and create small hygiene baggies for them. The gift cards will provide an additional meal in the evenings or on the weekends
- 2. Alpha Mu Area 5** *Building Leaders Through Service* **\$2,000.00**
Alpha Mu is working with the Leadership Club at Rivera Early College High School in Brownsville, Texas. Every student that participates in the Leadership Club comes away with a sense of purpose that allows them to believe in themselves, to appreciate what they have, and to strive for more. It is an inclusive school organization whose main goal seeks to give its members an opportunity to volunteer in their school and community and to make a difference in someone's life.
- 3. Beta Eta Area 3** *Let's Go: Back to School Backpacks Bonanza* **\$2,461.60**
Congratulations to this returning chapter for one more year of helping families and students as they prepare for the new school year. Beta Eta has a continued partnership with a local church and will provide school supplies to children who lost their homes from the January 2023 tornadoes. This Back to School Bonanza will relieve families of the financial burden, allowing families to allocate their limited resources to other essential needs like food, housing, and healthcare. Students will feel more prepared and equal to their peers, reducing feelings of shame or inadequacy. This can positively impact their overall mental health and well-being.
- 4. Alpha Area 7** *STEM Girl Conference* **\$400.00**
This is an Individual proposal to host a conference introducing girls in grades 3-12 from diverse backgrounds to STEM careers and related educational pathways. The goals are to inspire and encourage girls to pursue further learning in STEM fields and explore potential STEM careers. These young ladies will have an impactful opportunity to engage directly with successful women who have pursued STEM related careers.
- 5. Beta Lambda Area 17** *Modernizing Library Environment to Optimize Student Learning*
\$1,000.00 This is an Individual proposal, and the goal of this project is to create an atmosphere within the library that will encourage students to grow in enthusiasm for reading and learning. The focus of this project is to assist A.C. Williams Elementary in modernizing its library and impacting how students engage with the library and reading.
- 6. Epsilon Delta Area 11** *Life Skills for Friends at Shelby's Bridge* **\$2,500.00**
This chapter has chosen a project that will benefit a number of schools in their area by providing an opportunity for learning and experiences outside the classroom. Students will have occasion to work for a salary, learn job skills and participate in activities with their friends. By extending their project to a larger area that will include more campuses, this chapter will service students that otherwise might not be able to meet their work potential after their public education ends.

7. **Epsilon Tau Area 3** *Making Each Day Count: A Self-Care Program* **\$2,856.99**
 Epsilon Tau is Making Each Day Count for new and early career educators! Retired teachers will be mentors to new/early year teachers to provide a reliable support system, offering guidance, feedback, and emotional support. The goal is to help new teachers feel less isolated and more confident in their roles. Through mentoring and monthly visits, new teachers will develop essential teaching skills, problem solving skills, and receive regular encouragement and positive reinforcement
8. **Iota Epsilon Area 18** *Keeping Girls in School* **\$1,152.00**
 Members of Iota Epsilon chapter are committed to helping girls stay in school even when they have their periods once a month. Period poverty is a global crisis, with estimates of 1 out of every 10 menstruating girls and young women missing school during their menstrual cycle because of lack of access to products and health services. The Iota Epsilon sisters collected tampons and pads to give to school clinics in Klein ISD. School nurses can play an essential role in menstrual education by providing education, health, and hygiene education, private changing rooms, pads, tampons, and counselors
9. **Iota Eta Area 12** *A County History (Lamb County Library)* **\$1,500.00**
 This chapter has chosen to connect the students from their area more closely to the community they serve. By teaming up with their county library, the chapter hopes to accumulate, archive and restore books containing historical county information that can be used by teachers and students in classes, as well as others within the surrounding counties. The recipient of \$1500.00 for “A County History” (Lamb County Library) is Area 12’s Iota Eta.
10. **Kappa Delta Area 10** *Help for Homeless Students* **\$987.70**
 Through partnerships with the district's high schools and community organizations, this chapter will provide backpacks filled with essential toiletries, food items, and cold weather gear to homeless HS students in grades 10-12. With between 650-850 homeless or marginally housed students in the district at any given time, this initiative aligns with the ASTEF mission to promote educational excellence for Texas students by ensuring that these students can focus on their education despite their housing instability. Additionally, this project addresses the needs of students in a district where 60.78% of students come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
11. **Kappa Phi Area 9** *The Buzz for Bea* **\$500.00**
 In this project, the members of Kappa Phi created a project entitled “The Buzz for Bea” to support the teachers/staff of Bea Salazar Learning Center. The goals of this project is to bring refreshments and encouraging notes, decorations for the lounge, and other reminders that their hard work and dedication is not going unnoticed.
12. **Kappa Theta Area 16** *More Student Writers of Distinction* **\$417.80**
 This chapter’s project endeavors to increase student writing proficiency. With a focus on English-speaking and ESL third and fourth-grade students, their initiative aims to enhance writing skills and boost confidence, with an eye towards improving STAAR writing scores. By engaging over eight thousand students, including those from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, the project not only fosters academic growth but also strengthens community bonds. Through meticulous planning and involvement at every stage, from preparation, then scoring, and hosting the awards ceremony, this chapter demonstrates its commitment to educational excellence and the promotion of good writing. Join us in celebrating the literary achievements of young learners and shaping a brighter future through the power of words

- 13. Lambda Sigma Area 4 *Rainbow Room Children's Blanket* **\$585.00****
 This chapter has a passion to help children in Fort Bend County by providing new handmade blankets to the non-profit Fort Bend Rainbow Room, a charitable organization dedicated to helping families in crisis. When case workers who represent these families and or children in need come to pick up new beds, they will also be given one of our unique patterned fleece blankets. Lambda Sigma would make a direct impact on these children by providing them with a warm and colorful blanket to allow them a feeling of belonging and to help them gain positive self-esteem. A good night's sleep is important for students to be healthy and prepared for a day of learning at school.
- 14. Nu Area 7 *Books for Beginning Readers* **\$1,500.00****
 This project could impact the school's total population of 431, K through 5 students by providing at least 1 free book to each student, plus contributing additional books for teachers to provide to students for classroom weakly drawings. Members plan to read to groups of students, either in the library or in their classrooms. After the reading, students will be provided an opportunity to share their reflections of the book's story message and characters, and also share their personal perceptions of the values of reading.
- 15. Nu Epsilon Area 7 *Helping Budding Teachers Bloom* **\$1,495.00****
 This chapter project seeks to expand their support to additional international teachers on their road to success at various campuses in their area. Plans are underway to expand the project to reach more teachers being hired by the school district. Resource books purchased last year showed the teachers were overjoyed with new multilingual books that were different from their school library offered. The chapter's timeline for the 2024 – 2025 school year to complete the project has them ready to go!!!!
- 16. Nu Gamma Area 9 *Repair & Tracking of Little Free Libraries* **\$498.00****
 This chapter established Little Free Libraries in a previous project in the Fall of 2022. These libraries are in collaboration with local service clubs. With these funds, the chapter intends to perform maintenance and reload books for the little free libraries.
- 17. Omega Area 13 *Kindness Counts!* **\$1,000.00****
 This chapter has been purchasing pecans in bulk from a local farmer's market. They fill bags labeled with DKG information, and deliver, even by mailing, pounds of nuts from "The Pecan Valley." They have weighed 330+ pounds of pecans! Now what do they do with the money from their sales??? They collaborate with the local school counselors who are helping teach kids about anti-bullying with the "KINDNESS COUNTS" theme after the Berenstain Bear book. I remember the Berenstain Bears! In previous years, members have raised funds, critiqued, ordered, sorted, and delivered books to nine different elementary campuses. This year they added three more elementary campuses located in neighboring Coleman County, extending their influence on 14 different campuses in twelve school districts.
- 18. Theta Beta Area 6 *Passmore Elementary Recess Equipment and Games* **\$558.41****
 Ancient Greek philosopher Thales (Miletus, 624 - 546BC) 'A sound mind in a sound body' Maintaining a sound body is integral to promoting good learning. Chapter members participated in open discussions about the needs and desires of school administrators, teachers and students as to what was needed! The goal is to purchase much needed equipment to provide an excellent way to produce sound bodies and minds at Passmore Elementary School, in the Northside Independent School District of San Antonio.
- 19. Theta Sigma Area 3 *Journeying into Reading Helping Students SOAR* **\$1,100.00****
 The members of Theta Sigma Chapter, during the spring of 2024 provided books to all first, second and third grade students at Parks Elementary School in Pasadena Independent School District. In addition to a new book each student received a bookmark that highlighted the fun of reading. With this ASTEF project stipend, Theta Sigma members will add an additional grade this year – fourth grade. If we continue the project fourth graders will have received four books. We know these children will enjoy the opportunity to continue to develop their love of reading with the gift of a new book.

20. *ASTE F Founding Directors' Award*****

Upsilon Area 18

Story Trails for Early Literacy

\$3,000.00

Over the next year, members of this chapter are going to construct 2 story trails, a mobile pop-up and a permanent installation, in Huntsville, Texas. A story trail, better known as a Storywalk, combines the shared pleasure of reading books aloud with the joys and benefits of outdoor activity by placing pages of a high quality picture book along a popular path in a community. Enjoyable by all ages, a story trail will positively impact the educational excellence of Huntsville-area students by promoting early literacy skills through positive, shared experiences with literature. Once built, chapter members will regularly rotate the stories in order to increase the number of high-quality picture books and unique vocabulary local children are exposed to while building a habit of reading.

Total Amount Awarded \$26,513.10

Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International