



# Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Relief Fund

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*Iota commits \$7,000.00 in Grants to Small Businesses Owned by African American Women*

WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA , UNITED STATES , June 25, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.](#), the first African American business and professional women's organization, in partnership with the Lola M. Parker Foundation for Economic Empowerment for Business & Professional Women (LMPF) is committed to empowering youth and women to achieve financial independence through entrepreneurship and business education.

Small businesses owned by African American women are being adversely affected by COVID-19. As we know, African American owned businesses do not always have access to federal funding or the resources to recover from major disaster events. As we continue to recover from the effects of COVID-19 Pandemic and the inequality of loan assistance and resources, Iota has renewed its efforts to help small businesses in our communities.

Starting July 1st, applications will be available and accepted from African American women-owned small businesses in each of the five regions served by Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Applications are due by July 21, 2020.

We will award up to 10 micro-grants ranging from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 to small businesses owned by African American women, with less than 15 employees, to aid in their survival and recovery. The grants are to be awarded by a lottery of qualified applicants on August 8, 2020.

To qualify, a business must have been in business for at least one year, have less than \$100,000.00 in annual revenue and experienced a 25% decrease in revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please contact your local Iota chapter for an application.

Donations to Iota's Relief Fund can be accepted online via Paypal, email [info@lmpfdn.org](mailto:info@lmpfdn.org).

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About Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. :

Founded in 1929 in Chicago, Illinois and national headquarters located in Washington, DC is a national business and professional women's organization which strives to:

- Unite in sisterhood qualified business and professional women in order to enhance and

improve the status of women in our highly complex, competitive business and professional world;

- Promote increased interest in the broad field of business education among high school and college young women through planned programs and scholarships;
- Encourage the development of personal goals and leadership potential; and
- Establish and promote civic and social service activities for youth and adults.

The Sorority's national theme is Business and Professional Women Building the Foundation for Generational Financial Empowerment. Through the theme the sorority aims to:

- Make worthwhile contributions to the changing socio-economic patterns of our time;
- Project the philosophy of the pursuit of excellence in all worthy endeavors among youth and adults;
- Develop leadership expertise among business and professional women.

Currently, this 91-year-old nonprofit business and professional sisterhood is led by Dorothy M. White, 23rd National President and five Regional Directors that cover 52 chapters of members providing service to their respective communities through Iota's Central, Eastern, Far Western, Southern, and Southwestern Regions throughout the United States and U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is comprised of near 1,000 combined professional and businesswomen, and entrepreneurs. As of 2015 Iota founded the Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation and continues to work with its foundation in partnership to support the organization's mission, values, and aims.

#### Services Provided:

Includes national projects such as Lola M. Parker Award (Outstanding Woman of the Year); Tutorial – members assist the educational system by providing remedial help for those with academic weaknesses, and work to eradicate illiteracy; Mahala S. Evans Award (Outstanding Soror of the Year); Career Exploration – programs are designed to help broaden youths' awareness of career opportunities and to assist in preparing them for the world of work; Toys "U" Can't Return: Iota's teen pregnancy prevention project designed to help educate communities about teen pregnancy and develop effective action agendas for preventing children from having children; Iota Mothers Assistance Program (IMAP) – program designed to provide outreach services to meet the needs of teen and disadvantaged mothers.; Youth: Future Iota Leaders (FIL) – are preteen and teenage girls and boys who are mentored by members of the Iota family. Programs provide socialization and development opportunities for youth leadership training, and encourage them to realize their potentials to the fullest; and Scholarships are awarded annually on the chapter, regional, and national levels.

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