



## ALPHA SIGMA PHI FRATERNITY to BETTER the MAN.

Leading up to the 175th Anniversary of Alpha Sigma Phi, we are focusing ourselves on one of the values each quarter. This Spring, we rededicate ourselves to the value of Charity.

We hear about Charity all the time in our daily lives through a constant stream of commercials and advertisements that want your attention, time, and money. Charity is much more than these vague and empty platitudes. The sixth edition of To Better the Man manual describes a gentleman as follows: “He is charitable in the broadest sense of the word. A man who strives for a life of charity and service is more patient, kinder, and more forgiving of the flaws of others. A charitable man sacrifices of himself to help others and seeks no recognition in return. He is humble, reverent, and generous.” The dictionary includes an act of good will, benevolence, and impartial or brotherly love.

Charity is not just giving money. A poor man can be charitable. Time is one of the most important aspects of this. Time is a precious thing both in our lives and with others. The time we spend with brothers within the mystic circle are precious and powerful moments. The bonds we share and form stay with us the rest of our lives. Fellow brothers can come to us about anything and we will spend time with them. Interactions like this lead to bigger things in our lives. There is a certain level of trust that we not only convey for others, but we are more willing to be open and honest.

A charitable person does this because it is more important to sacrifice yourself for others, not to give yourself a pat on the back or get the accolades from your peers, but rather to strive to better yourself and the world. This striving makes one more patient with others and yourself, tolerating flaws.

There are many historians that say the more charitable the society, the more successful and prosperous the society becomes. Charity is practiced through our Alpha Sigma Phi partner, The Humane Society. This organization does incredible work helping the animals that surround our lives. They provide aid and assistance to animals all over the world. Charity, as they say, starts at home. We have the ability and the duty to assist those who cannot help themselves. This is what distinguishes human beings other life on this planet. We have the ability and knowledge to help. We also distinguish ourselves as a Brotherhood because of the values we hold dear.

Charity is not and should not be a forced ideal. Nevertheless, it can be a learned virtue. Learning goes hand in hand with growth, and growth is a vital tenant of becoming a better man. Becoming a better man is what Alpha Sigma Phi represents. Each chapter should reflect on Charity during the Spring quarter of 2019. This includes chapter discussion, reflection, and activities. Document these activities and share with Fraternity Headquarters.