LEARNERS AND LEADERS
Fraternity and Sorority Leadership

THE BONDS THAT STRENGTHEN CHARACTER AND COMMUNITY.

WHAT IT TAKES
The Campaign for MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
PLEDGING NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED.

Fraternities and sororities have always been critical to the development of leaders on our campus. They have also been instrumental in our retention of students through to graduation. Fraternities and sororities bring people together, keep passionate alumni close to MSU and encourage peer-to-peer mentorship. Chapter houses help produce bright, service-oriented students, the sort of people that other students look up to: those who lead, achieve in the classroom and go on to succeed in their careers and lives.

IT TAKES A COMMITMENT TO GROWTH AND ENGAGEMENT.

To enhance the fraternity and sorority experience and strengthen MSU, the Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Initiative will improve system-wide rush efforts, connect MSU students with the national “Phired Up” program and provide additional resources and guidance to help build healthy chapter houses.

This effort will help our students grow as individuals, engage as ethical leaders, become involved in extracurricular activities, boost their academic performance and succeed as MSU graduates and alumni.
FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE GOALS.

$550,000 in private support raised for fraternity and sorority leadership programs

25% increase in participation over the next two years—from 560 to 700 students

NEW PROGRAMS WILL BE ROOTED IN THE FIVE PILLARS OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Friendship
- Leadership
- Scholarship
- Stewardship
- Integrity

REACHING OUR GOAL

To make this happen, we need to raise $550,000 in private support for programs. Not only will this initiative help build our fraternity and sorority community, but it will also advance these ambitious goals in MSU’s strategic plan:

- To increase the graduation rate from 51% to 65% for undergraduates as measured by the six-year graduation rate
- To increase the first-time, full-time freshmen fall-to-fall retention from 74% to 82%
- To increase the number of opportunities for and the percentage of students participating in leadership development activities
- To increase the number of students involved in service, outreach and engagement activities
- To offer increased opportunities for service, outreach and engagement activities to students, faculty and staff
- To increase the percentage of students actively participating in student organizations
DENARIUS MCGHEE

As a record-breaking quarterback, DeNarius McGhee led his high school football team to a conference championship. Proud of his achievements on the field, he also recognized that he wanted more out of his time at Montana State University. DeNarius found exactly what he was looking for when he joined the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

As a Pi Kappa Alpha member, DeNarius learned new skills that carry forward the fraternal pillars of excellence. Living in the house as a senior, he became a mentor to younger members struggling to adapt at MSU or in their studies. As chapter recruitment chairman and executive board member, DeNarius served with people from diverse backgrounds, gaining perspective on issues from a multitude of viewpoints, learning about responsible budgeting, and growing the organization within its means.

In pursuing a pro football career, DeNarius knows he will spend as much time as an ambassador and volunteer off the field as he does on the field. He believes that his experiences as a fraternity member will serve him well on that path.

KIERSTYN TUEL

Kierstyn Tuel was initially hesitant to come to Montana State University from her home in Camas, Washington. A senior and pre-med student now, Kierstyn recalls arriving as a shy freshman, missing her family and the familiarity of her home. She felt awkward introducing herself to others and struggled to adjust to life in the busy residence halls.

To help Kierstyn become more involved in the campus community, a friend from home encouraged her to consider sorority life. She was skeptical at first, but ultimately was drawn to their commitment to scholarship, outreach, and philanthropy. Kierstyn joined MSU’s Chi Omega sorority and moved into their sorority house.

The welcoming and encouraging environment of the chapter house boosted Kierstyn’s self-confidence and she began to develop leadership and organizational skills. Since joining the sorority, Kierstyn has been elected to a series of leadership positions including Chapter President.

This leadership experience has encouraged Kierstyn to extend her chapter’s positive impact beyond the MSU campus. Through her outreach and philanthropic leadership, the Chi Omega Chapter worked 200+ hours raising over $4,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"MSU will benefit by having more students connected to fraternities and sororities."