



**PHOENIX AKARAMA
FOUNDATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2025**



**PRESENTED
APRIL 2026**



Table of Contents

Board of Directors

President's Report

Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation Profile

Programs, Activities and Statistics

Financial Statement

Foundation Support

Fashionetta® Report

Scholarship Report

Future Goals and Objectives

Foundation Supporters

Foundation Members



2025 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Mrs. Sherry McFadden, President
Mrs. LaTricia Woods, First Vice-President
Mrs. Rochonne Simmons, Second Vice-President
Ms. Angela Mullins, Secretary
Mrs. Rachelle Hardin Chambers, Treasurer
Ms. Melissa Cox, Financial Secretary
Mrs. Shawn Gear, Immediate Past President

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Mrs. Michelle Adair
Mrs. Tetonia Blossom
Mrs. Tonette Echols
Mrs. Carla Gentles
Mrs. Tracy Lewis
Mrs. Vernita Petty
Ms. Arissa Coby, Zeta Alpha

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS AND CHAIRMEN

Consultants

Dr. Eula Saxon-Dean
Dr. LaVern Tarkington

Fashionetta®

Ms. Keely Brown
Mrs. Shannon Tolbert

Scholarship

Ms. Allison Swanson
Mrs. Chanda McDonald-Bryant



President's Report

Community Impact in Action

The Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation proudly reflects on a year of meaningful service to the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan community. We extend our sincere gratitude to our donors, sponsors, and partners whose generosity fuels our mission. Your support allows us to expand educational opportunities, uplift students, strengthen families, and enhance community well-being.

Advancing Educational Excellence

In 2025, we remained committed to increasing access to higher education by awarding \$20,000 in scholarships to deserving high school students. These funds help remove financial barriers and empower students to pursue their collegiate goals with confidence.

Signature Programs

Black, Brown, and College Bound Boot Camp

Hosted at Arizona State University, this program provided high school and transfer students with hands-on workshops focused on college readiness, FAFSA completion, financial literacy, career pathways, and well-being—equipping participants for long-term success.

32nd Annual HBCU College Fair

Held at Phoenix College, this longstanding event connected over six hundred students with representatives from Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other academic resources expanding access and opportunity across our community and beyond.

Strengthening Community Well-Being

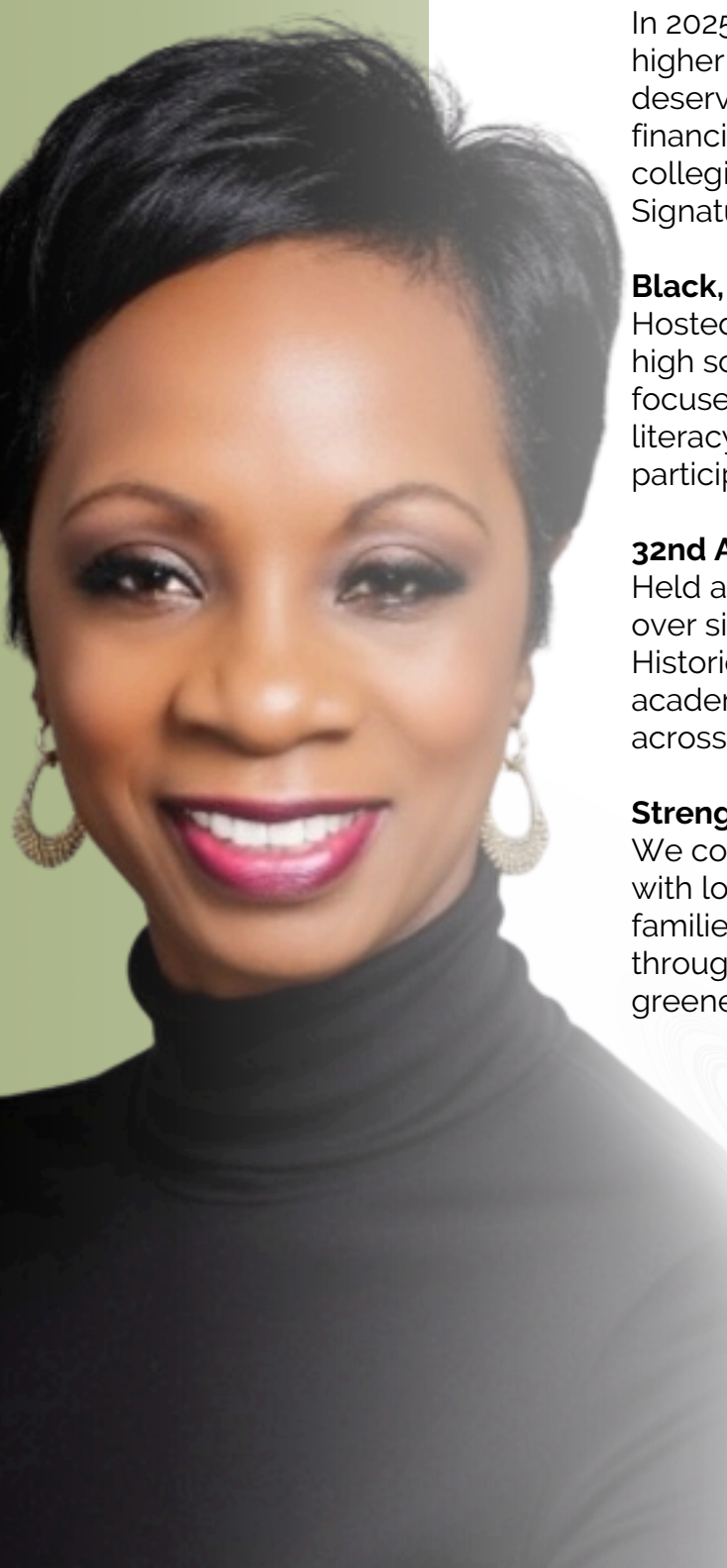
We continued addressing childhood hunger by partnering with local schools to provide nutritious food resources to families in need. Our environmental initiatives also expanded through community tree-planting efforts that promote greener, healthier neighborhoods.

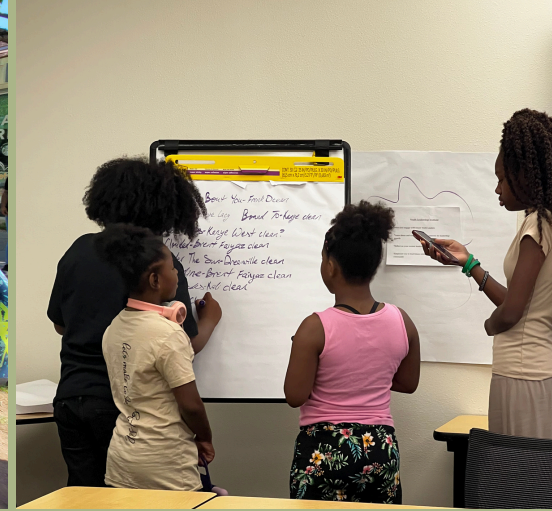
Looking Ahead

Inspired by this year's accomplishments, we remain steadfast in our commitment to educational advancement, community empowerment, and impactful service.

With gratitude,

Sherry A. McFadden
President, Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation





Foundation Profile

The mission of the **Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation** is to raise and award funds for programs that advance leadership development, encourage academic excellence, improve health, support those in need and educate about the value of philanthropy.

As a non-profit arm of one of the most historic organizations, comprised mainly of African-American women, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, the Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation has established itself as a leading voice of influence in the greater Phoenix area.

The foundation is engaging in several community programs that support the mission, including:

- **College Ready Boot Camp** – a one-day workshop focusing on preparing high school juniors and seniors for college admission, and assisting community college students with transitioning to a four-year university.
- **Fashionetta® Scholarship Breakfast and Fashion Show** – the signature fundraiser of the foundation that is held annually on the first Saturday of December, and funds raised help support the service programs and scholarships awarded during the year.
- **Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Fair** – a one-day event held in September, that is designed to expose high school students to higher education institutions that are a tradition in the African-American community, along with other educational resources and schools across Arizona.
- **Childhood Hunger Initiative** – providing weekend and holiday meals to under-served families.
- **Youth Leadership Institute** – a youth-led leadership development program designed to empower and engage 11-13-year-olds.
- **Supporting Women Entrepreneurs** – providing opportunities to support, celebrate, enhance and empower women-owned businesses, and providing greater revenue-generating opportunities.
- **Tree Planting, Waste Reduction and Recycling** – in partnership with local organizations, the foundation is providing environmental resources and support, adopting area streets and holding shredding and electronic recycling days.

Programming

The Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation's reach into the greater Phoenix area continues to expand, allowing event organizers to create virtual components that reached more individuals in need.



500+ POWER PACK MEALS FOR CHILDREN

CHILDHOOD HUNGER INITIATIVE POWER PACK

CHIPP provides weekend and holiday meals for children within local communities and is targeted to be Alpha Kappa Alpha's most ambitious childhood hunger program to date.



\$25K IN SPENDING

BUILDING YOUR ECONOMIC LEGACY PROGRAMMING

From supporting African-American owned businesses to financial literacy workshops and retirement planning tools, the foundation touched thousands of lives through in-person, virtual town halls and workshops.



15+ SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Year-round campaigns to plant trees, street clean-ups, recycling and carpooling that help create an overall more sustainable Arizona.



Programming

\$22K IN SCHOLARSHIPS

EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAMMING

Programming geared toward moving high school students through the college admissions process and helping students transition to college led foundation efforts to award more than \$20,000 in scholarships.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

The Youth Leadership Institute is creating pathways to leadership development for 11-13-year-olds and opportunities for personal growth and development.

600+ PARTICIPANTS

HBCU CALL FOR ACTION PROGRAMMING

Challenging students to learn more about Historically Black College and Universities continued to be a key component of the foundation's educational thrust, along with supporting HBCU's financially by donating to the HBCU Endowment Initiative.



Financial Statement

Total Funds Available January 1, 2024 \$373,540.81

INCOME

Fashionetta®	\$218,181.28
Gila River Indian Community Grant	\$55,305.00
Scholarship	\$15,500.00
General Donations	\$14,315.41
Williams Family CHIPP Donations	\$8,223.29
Other	\$5,965.16
Helios Education Grant	\$1,000.00

Total Income \$318,490.14

Total Income Available \$692,030.95

EXPENSES

Fashionetta®	\$190,658.03
Scholarship	\$24,442.97
DBO Programming Grant	\$16,079.08
Community Support	\$4,319.00
Educational Advancement Foundation	\$3,000.00
Operations	\$5,407.78
Gila River Indian Community Grant	\$9,578.53
Other	\$4,000.00

CHECKING BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 \$434,145.56

SAVINGS BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 \$33,570.43

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025 \$466,715.99

Foundation Support

Strengthen Our Sisterhood
"We Are One" AKA Day of Service (MLK) \$251.79

Empower Our Families
CHIPP (Childhood Hunger Initiative) \$3,499.94
Youth Leadership Institute
Mental Health Awareness

TOTAL EMPOWER OUR FAMILIES \$3,499.94

Build Our Economic Wealth \$3,236.78

Enhance Our Environment \$1,458.28

Uplift Our Local Community
HBCU Fair \$6,702.73
ASU Rise \$500.00

TOTAL UPLIFT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY \$7,202.73

Educational Advancement Foundation \$3,000.00

Scholarship \$24,442.94

Community Support
Jack & Jill of America, Inc. - Phoenix Chapter \$350.00
NAACP - Maricopa County Branch \$1,000.00
Kapap Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. \$450.00
Maricopa Community College \$1,080.00
First Institutional Baptist Church \$525.00
Komputer Kids, Inc. \$5,783.02

TOTAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT \$9,188.02

**TOTAL 2025 PHOENIX AKARAMA
FOUNDATION GRANT \$52,280.51**

Fashionetta® Report

We were excited to present our signature event, Fashionetta® 2025: Couture Renaissance, was held at the Renaissance Glendale. In addition to the fashions provided by oneStrut Runway Entertainment Group, the event also featured a silent auction by Pacific Auction Company, a raffle with gifts from black owned businesses and the experience of Boutique Shopping during designated shopping hours.

SPONSORS

Gold Sponsor:

Tez Adams State Farm

Silver Sponsors:

The Arizona Cardinals

Comfort Keepers

Greater Phoenix Urban League Board of Directors

Modern Acupuncture at San Tan Pavilions

Nikki Ironwood, LLC

Sanders & Parks Law Firm

Lauren TRosca-Bonner, MD

Mrs. Jean Booker

Mr. Tony & Mrs. Florence Franklin

Dr. Carnella Hardin

Mr. Derrick & Mrs. Sonya Robinson

Mrs. Karen Serrano

Dr. LaVern Tarkington

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McKnight Educational Consulting for College Admissions

New Vision Behavioral Health and Wellness, LLC

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, Xi Nu Nu Chapter

Phoenix Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Pink Sky Productions

Quilts Not Blankets

Sugar Jam

Tipsy Scoop

Water Lily Health and Wellness

Fashionetta® Report

BUDGET REPORT

INCOME

LINE ITEM	ACTUAL
Ask Donations	\$2,196.00
Assessments	\$9,510.00
Digital Ad Sales	\$2,850.00
Ticket Sales	\$134,277.00
Raffle Ticket Sales	\$11,007.00
Silent Auction	\$9,114.00
Sponsorships	\$53,000.00
Vendors	\$4,460.00

Total Income **\$226,414.00**

EXPENSES

LINE ITEM	ACTUAL
Venue	\$58,474.57
Audio Visual	\$68,330.65
Staging Rental	\$10,514.89
Modeling Agency	\$31,000.00
Logo Design	\$500.00
Photographer	\$400.00
DJ	\$500.00
Raffle Prize	\$500.00
Silent Auction	\$7,196.00
MC Honorariums	\$500.00
Decorations	\$1,159.94
Printing	\$304.22
Signage	\$596.44
Fire Permit	\$601.78
Chairs Courtesies	\$521.40
President Courtesy	\$481.40
RD Courtesies	\$1553.13
Other Expenses	\$505.00

ACTUAL EXPENSES **\$183,639.42**

NET PROFIT **\$42,774.58**



Scholarship Report

The charge of the Scholarship Committee is to oversee the annual scholarship and to ensure the timely and fair disposition of scholarship funds. The committee is charged with publicizing and soliciting applications and making decisions based on the applicants' responses. It is also the responsibility of the committee to distribute the scholarship(s) and follow up with recipient(s) to ensure the scholarship(s) awarded is received.

A total of \$23,500 in AKARAMA scholarship funds are in the process of being awarded to the 2025 recipients at the luncheon.

RECIPIENT	AWARD AMOUNT	UNIVERSITY
Symorah Johnson	\$2,000	
India Davis Wiley	\$2,500	
Breanna Williams	\$3,000	
Mezaan Crosby	\$4,000	
Loren Jones	\$5,000	
Essence Payne	\$6,000	
Nya Clemons	\$1,000	Arizona State University



Future Goals and Objectives

20%
CAPACITY
INCREASE

COMMUNITY VISIBILITY AND AWARENESS

Continue to increase visibility and community awareness of the foundation by evaluating programs, holding board retreats to plan for future needs, establish quality protocols for data collection and continue to build awareness.

2
NEW
PARTNERSHIPS

NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

Develop partnerships and collaborations to maximize community involvement by investigating, forming, or expanding partnerships with other like-minded organizations.

1
NEW
EXPANSION
OPPORTUNITY

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT/EXPANSION

Increase youth outreach by building on community partnerships, creating new development programs and activities, and continuing to expand current programming.

1
NEW BOARD
MEMBER

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH

Continue to develop and maintain an effective, active, and informed Board of Directors who are helping forward the foundation's mission while creating a recruiting campaign to attract new members and new fundraising opportunities.

Supporters

The work of the Phoenix AKARAMA Foundation could not happen without the support of our community partners and supporters.



**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® -
Delta Beta Omega Chapter**

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® -
Zeta Alpha Chapter**

Arizona Community Foundation

Arizona State University

Coalition of Blacks Against Breast Cancer

Coalition of Blacks Against Cancer

City of Phoenix, Arizona

College Depot, Phoenix Public Library

**Community Outreach & Enrollment Development at
Mesa Community College**

Gila River Indian Community Grant

Helios Educational Foundation

Links, Phoenix Chapter

Leadership Consortium

Maricopa County Branch NAACP

Maricopa Community College Districts

My Brother's Keeper, Phoenix

Phoenix College

South Mountain Community College

South Pointe Elementary School

Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

Membership

ADAIR, MICHELLE
ADAMS, JANET
ADKINS, DOLORES
AUSBERRY, MARIE
AYO-MAY, JULIE
BAILEY BENSON, MARIA
BAILEY-TEASE, TERRAINE
BAKER, GLORIA
BARTON, DANETTE
BAYLESS, JAMIL
BELL, REBEKAH
BISHOP, KIMORA
BLOSSOM, TETONIA
BOATNER, CARLA
BOATNER, CHESLA
BOND, CHERYL
BONNER, LAUREN
BOOKER, CHELSEA
BOOKER, JEAN
BRANTLEY, ERIKA
BROWN, ALEAN
BROWN, KEELY
BROWN, TRACEY
BRYANT, CHANDA
BUIE, TARA
CAMPBELL, DANIELLE
CASTILLE, SABRINA
CHEEKS, MAIYA
CHERRY, SHANNON
CLAY, COURTNI
CLEMONS, DELORES
CLINTON, MALISSIA
COLEMAN, TRUVAE
CORO, MICHELLE
COTTON, DEBORAH
COX, MELISSA
CURRY, JOANNE
CURRY, SHERIOLYN
DABNEY, ASHLEY
DANIELS, WHITNEY
DARDEN, JOY
DAVIS-RAGLAND, CLARISSA
DAVIS, LISA
DAWSON-HOOKS, BOBBIE
DEAN, EULA
DENSON, CHAROLETTE
DOSS, REVE
DRUMMER, JAYLENE
EARLEY, CIERA
ECHOLS, TONETTE
ERVIN, BRANDY
EVANS, AVA
FAIN, JACQUELINE
FLETCHER, JOI
FLETCHER, KAREN
FRANKLIN, FLORENCE

GARNETT-HOPKINS, EVE-
LYNN
GEAR, SHAWN
GIANQUINTO, ALBERTA
GILLESPIE, QUINCY
GOODE, NATALIE
GORDON, LYNDA
GRINER, CHERELLE
GUIDRY, TOMESHA
HALYARD, MICHELE
HANSERD, BRENDA
HARDAWAY, TIFFANY
HARDIN-CHAMBERS,
RACHELLE
HARDIN, ANDREA
HARDIN, ASHLEY
HARDIN, CARNELLA
HARDIN, KAREN
HARPER, JENNIFER
HEDRINGTON, CHEYENNE
HELAIRE, SONYA
HOLLOWAY, JANET
HOLMES, REGINA
HORNBACK, TALEI
HOUSTON, AMAYA
HUNTER, JACKIE
JACKSON, KENNESHA
JAMERSON, JOYCE
JAMES, KIM
JASPER, JENNIFER
JENKINS, SANDRA
JOHNSON, A'NIYAH
JOHNSON, ANGELA
JOHNSON, ARDYCE
JOHNSON, GEORGIA
JONES, JEWEL
JONES, VICTORIA
KEAL, CLARA
KEAL, SHONNE
KEITH, ROSALYN
KETEMA, EDEN
KIRSHNER, SHARI
LECIAN, LOTTIE
LENOIR, ROSALYNN
LEWIS, TRACY
LINDSEY, KONYA
LONG, AJASHA
LOUIS, JOYCELYN
LOUIS, W. RUTH
MACKAY, LYNN
MALCOLM, TERESA
MARTIN, CHANTE
MARTIN, DESHEANIA
MASON-BURRELL, MONIQUE
MAY, ERYNN
MCDONALD, SHARON
MCFADDEN, SHERRY

MILLER, MICHELLE
MOORE, C. ANGEL BRANCH
MOORER, TONYA
MULLINS, ANGELA
MYERS, LYNNEIS
NELSON, BRIANNA
NKEZE, NAMURA
NOLEN, JANICE
NOWELS-PIERCE,
ONQUANETTE
ODEN, ANISHA
OLIVER, LISA
PARKER, JANET (MCHENRY)
PEMBROKE, MONICA
PETTY, VERNITA
PIERCE-JOHNSON, SONYA
PINA, CAMRYN
PINA, MADISON
PINA, TERRI
REDMOND, SAVANNAH
RENAUD, LAURA
REYNOLDS, CESLEY
ROBILLARD, ALYSSA
ROBINSON, SONYA
ROSETTE, JOYCE
SANDERS, PRUDENCE
SANSONE-CAMPBELL,
NATALEE
SAUNDERS, KANISHA
SAUNDERS, ROMONA
SCOTT, FERN
SCOTT, KRISTY
SELLERS, DEENA
SERRANO, KAREN
SHERWOOD, JOAN
SIMMONS, FRANCESCA
SIMMONS, ROCHONNE
SMITH-BURNS, JACQUELINE
STEWART, MARTHA
STEWART, MICHELLE
SUMLER, TAMARA
SUMMERS-FRANKLIN, LORA
SUMNER, VERNOLA
SUPREME, TOYA
SWANSON, ALLISON
TARKINGTON, LAVERN
TOLBERT, SHANNON
TROUTMAN, TISHA
WALDRON, CAROL
WALTON, GWENDOLYN
WARE, NIA
WATKINS-BRYANT, KAREN
WELLS, JESSICA
WEST, KAIA
WEST, NEDENIA
WESTENBERG, CAMILLA
WESTENBERG, ERICA

WHITE, LAVERNE
WHYE, BARBARA
WILLIAMS, AEISHA
WILLIAMS, GRETCHEN
WILLIAMS, JACYNA
WILLIAMS, JENI
WILLIAMS, KAMARIA
WILLIAMS, KIMANI
WILLIAMS, TRAYCE
WILLIS, DIANE
WILSON, CONNIE
WOODS, LATRICIA
WRIGHT-GENTLES, CARLA
WRIGHT, ALICIA
YOUNG, PHELISHA





PHOENIX AKARAMA FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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finance@phxakarama.org

The AKARAMA Foundation does not discriminate in its educational service programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, ancestry, age, religion or religious creed, disability or handicap, sex or gender (including pregnancy, sexual harassment and other sexual misconduct including acts of sexual violence such as rape, sexual assault, sexual exploitation and coercion), gender identity and/or expression (including a transgender identity), sexual orientation, military or veteran status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state or local law. Retaliation is also prohibited. **The AKARAMA Foundation** will comply with state and federal laws such as M.G.L. c. 151B, Title IX, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and other similar laws that prohibit discrimination.