

Introduction

This Curriculum Guide for the *A Voteless People is a Hopeless People* program provides the blueprint for a project that can be updated and tailored to meet the needs of any community. It is anticipated that the topics discussed and activities implemented will stimulate discourse within the membership of each chapter, leading to an implementation plan that meets the needs of your community. This guide—while not providing the informational background you need for a total grasp of the topic areas—will focus your attention on some of the key issues and direction. It also will provide several modules for program implementation and hopefully stimulate the members of your chapter by providing programmatic leadership to think broadly about the needs of your community in the areas of political and socioeconomic empowerment.

Module 1:

By informing participants about Alpha Phi Alpha's historic involvement in the political process, the history of the voting rights process, voter participation and information about events that currently impact their lives, a framework for increased participation in voting and politics, in general, is established.

Module 2:

Participants will gain knowledge about the National Voter Registration Act, learn how to complete a voter registration card and develop the skills needed to conduct voter registration drives in their communities.

Module 3:

Participants will learn about the various forms of government and receive information about: county, city, state and federal governments; the roles of the U.S. House and Senate; the fundamental elements of a political convention and the purpose of a primary election; and which amendments establish and restrict the powers of various governmental entities.

Module 4:

Participants will learn how to contact their elected officials while also learning about volunteer and employment opportunities in the political arena.

The Office of the National Director of Educational Activities at the Corporate Headquarters will periodically update this guide as feedback is received from Fraternity members, particularly as successful practices are identified. Comments concerning this curriculum should be sent to: National Director of Educational Activities; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Corporate Headquarters; 2313 St. Paul Street; Baltimore, MD, 21218. Phone: (410) 554-0040.