

The Virgin Islands Consortium

AARP VI, Alpha Kappa Alpha Collaborate to Honor Caregivers as Part of AKA National Family Caregivers' Day

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Staff Consortium **November 14, 2021**



The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., in collaboration with AARP on Monday will present “Caring for Our Caregivers Before & After the Call of Care”, in celebration of AKA National Family Caregivers' Day, a release issued Saturday has made known.

This virtual conversation, “Honoring Caregivers and Preparing Persons to Care”, will be hosted at 6:00 p.m. Live on Facebook and Instagram. Speakers include Dr. Migdalia Brathwaite and Pamela Toussaint of AARP.

"This day of observance is our opportunity to recognize and honor these individuals who often place the needs of family members and others before their own," stated the release.

A caregiver helps another person with daily grooming, medical and/or physical care, and/or finance management due to advanced age, disease, mental disorders, or disability. Caregivers are usually unpaid family members. Almost 44 million Americans serve as caregivers to adults or children, and according to the Institute on Aging, 75% of caregivers are female and most work outside the home.

This "Impact Day" on November 15 will enable the Sorority and AARP to highlight their collective impact on communities across the country, stated the release. Sigma Theta Omega Chapter in the St. Thomas/St. John district will highlight and show the sorority's profoundest appreciation and gratitude to several caregivers within the community.

"We will give tokens in recognition of their selfless service," the nonprofits said.

"Show your appreciation to a caregiver you might know; provide a day of rest for someone who provides care for a loved one; offer to clean up a caregiver's home (or pay for a cleaning service), and/or provide dinner for a caregiving family. Let's show love and celebrate the important work that they do," stated Julice Holder, Sigma Theta Omega Chapter president.

In 2014, President Barack Obama, through a Presidential Proclamation, designated November as National Family Caregivers' Month which has continued to be observed annually.