



2022 Parent and Family Fund Impact Report



masonfamily.gmu.edu/parent-and-family-fund

A Message to Parent and Family Fund Donors



In 2021, parent and family donors like you continued to be instrumental in helping Mason respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our students.

Gifts from parents and families demonstrated a confidence in Mason and a passion for helping our students in need. Your support strengthened our students' health and well-being in ways that would not have been possible without philanthropy.

This report highlights the impact of your contributions to the Parent and Family Fund. Inside you'll see how our students have directly benefited from your gifts, as well as a breakdown of how your support has touched many aspects of our campus community during this critical time.

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised more than \$315,000 for the Parent and Family Fund to date. On behalf of our students, thank you! I continue to be grateful for your investment in the student experience at Mason.

With Patriot Pride,

Rose Pascarell
Vice President for University Life



The
Impact
of Your
Gift

The Impact of Your Gift

Gifts to the Parent and Family Fund allowed University Life to implement a number of innovative opportunities to keep students safely involved in the Mason community and to provide key resources aimed at prioritizing student health and well-being during the ongoing pandemic.

Alternative Break Program

Social Action and Integrative Learning (SAIL) leads Mason's Alternative Break program where students partner with host organizations to work toward community-driven goals that address social issues through education and community service. Select students serve as trip leaders and work with Mason faculty and staff to design and organize an experience for their peers. Students emerge from these experiences with new ideas and perspectives that inspire active and engaged citizenship. SAIL provided eight scholarships to students serving as trip leaders, including Blythe, who organized an alternative break program focused on HIV and AIDS.



“ I chose to become a trip leader after being a participant on the HIV and AIDS Alternative Break last year. I attribute this experience, both attending and planning the trip, to my current successes and passions related to substance use and harm reduction. Leading this trip has been one of the best things I have done so far in my college career. Planning an experience that will hopefully destigmatize not only HIV and AIDS, but also substance use and sexual orientation [for student participants] has been a project of passion and purpose. ”

—Blythe

Unpaid Internship Scholarships

The ongoing impacts of the pandemic forced many financially disadvantaged students to choose between pursuing a valuable, resume-building unpaid internship or keeping a job unrelated to their career goals to pay the bills. University Career Services provided seven scholarships to students completing unpaid internships at area organizations such as the American Red Cross.



Bystander Intervention Training

Whether in the classroom, a social setting, a registered student organization, or just with their peers, students may find themselves in situations that require bystander intervention skills to promote safety, support, empathy, and community building. The Student Support and Advocacy Center hosted bystander intervention training to help students develop the skills to safely intervene in a situation and to challenge the Mason community to choose intervention and prioritize well-being for all.



Graduate Outdoor Adventures

Opportunities to build a sense of community during this time of social and physical distancing are more important now than ever. Graduate Student Life, in partnership with Outdoor Adventures, offered a series of trips for students where they could hike, climb, bike, canoe, or paddleboard, while forming relationships with their peers across disciplines. Funding was used to subsidize the trips so the cost would not limit student participation.

For more information on the Parent and Family Fund, please contact Kaitlin Cicchetti, director of advancement for University Life, at koyler@gmu.edu or 703-993-6036.

\$315,778 Dollars raised
(2014–present)

6,615 Number of donors
(2014–present)

2021 Parent and Family Fund Grants

A portion of money raised in the Parent and Family Fund was allocated three times in 2021 to support strategic initiatives within the George Mason University community that enhance the student experience.

\$23,800 was allocated to nine projects across the university community via Parent and Family Fund grants.

7,017 students were impacted by projects supported by Parent and Family Fund grants.

- **Scholarships:** \$14,000
- **Student Life:** \$6,500
- **Direct Student Support:** \$2,500
- **Student Well-Being:** \$800

