



2021 Parents Fund Impact Report

masonfamily.gmu.edu/parents-fund

A Message to Parents Fund Donors



In 2020, parent and family donors like you were instrumental in helping Mason respond to the unprecedented challenges that emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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 Parents Fund. Inside you'll see how our students have directly benefited from your gifts, as well as a breakdown of how support from the Parents Fund has touched many aspects of our campus community during this critical time.

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised more than \$274,000 for the Parents 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 of University Life



The
Impact
of Your
Gift

The Impact of Your Gift

Gifts to the Parents 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.

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 20 scholarships to students completing unpaid internships, including Samiha, who interned with the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History.



“ My father, who is the main breadwinner for my family, has been out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I have tried my best to take advantage of as many financial resources as possible since my family has been in a difficult state financially for a few months now and has been worried about paying larger bills, such as my tuition. Without a scholarship like this one, I would have been forced to make the decision to drop [my] internship. ”

—Samiha, Class of 2022

Outdoor Adventure Tents

As many opportunities for exercise, recreation, and leisure were taken away due to COVID-19 restrictions, Outdoor Adventures became an even more important on-campus resource for students to utilize to escape in a safe environment. Since students could no longer safely share rented tents, eight one-person tents were purchased to ensure students could still take advantage of the great outdoors safely.



Tea Kettles for Quarantine

Residential students relocated to quarantine were not able to access kitchen facilities during their stay. To ensure students had access to hot liquids to make tea, soups, and coffee to aid in their recovery, Student Health Services purchased 30 electric tea kettles for students to use, thus improving students' quality of life while in quarantine.



Corner Pocket Equipment

In an effort to continue offering students the opportunity to safely engage with their peers on campus, Corner Pocket, the campus game room, purchased additional gaming consoles to respond to the growing community on campus interested in connecting virtually through esports.

\$274,469 Dollars raised
(2014–present)

6,293 Number of donors
(2014–present)

2020 Parents Fund Grants

A portion of money raised in the Parents Fund was allocated three times in 2020 to support strategic initiatives within the George Mason University community that enhance the student experience.

\$27,826 was allocated
to 13 projects across the university
community via Parents Fund grants

2,882 students were impacted by
projects receiving funding from Parents
Fund grants

- **Scholarships:** \$16,200
- **Direct Student Support:** \$7,406
- **Student Life:** \$2,520
- **Student Well-Being:** \$1,700

