

2021-2023

Dean of Students Emergency Fund



CARE Team

Coordination
Assistance
Response
Education

gvsu.edu/care



At Grand Valley State University, the CARE Team allows for a comprehensive and compassionate response to students facing a wide variety of concerns. The CARE Team provides case management services to students whose concerns are of a more persistent and complex nature and operate under the belief that resolving difficult student issues is best accomplished through a coordinated team effort. We all know that life outside of the classroom can impact life inside of the classroom and so we want to provide opportunities for support concerning those unexpected life situations that could potentially cause a major barrier to a student's success.









One of the ways our CARE Team helps support students is through the use of the Dean of Students Emergency Funds. The Dean of Students Emergency Fund was set up as a strategic support effort to help students facing a small one time financial hardship that, if not met, could cause a very negative impact on their schooling. The fund is only utilized after all other avenues of financial support are exhausted. We've developed this impact report to show you some of the ways this fund has been utilized to help our growing student population overcome financial barriers to success. And we hope you will consider the opportunity to donate to the Dean of Students Emergency Fund as a way to make a lasting impact on the life of our students.


A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Emily First". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

-Emily First
Assistant Dean of Students



Students can use this grant to help pay for:

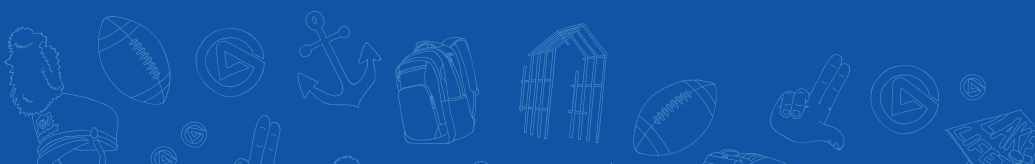
-  Books and class materials such as:
 - Calculators
 - Lab manuals
 - Technology
-  Small vehicle repairs
-  Pair of glasses
-  Small medical bills
-  Meal plans or groceries (that Replenish cannot supply)
-  Clothing
-  Hygiene products & toiletries
-  Other needs that can impede academics if unmet

 We donated to the Dean of Students Emergency Fund to respond to unplanned financial challenges many students face, helping them focus on reaching their full potential with fewer distractions. Grand Valley was like family to us, and that's what families do—help each other in times of need.

Len '94 and Cristy Van Popering

When we meet with a student who has a financial need, we first coach them on seeking out all other options of support first like speaking with the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships to see if any additional aid can help with the need. Then, we will encourage the students to fill out the Financial Aid Hardship Grant or Special Circumstance form. We may know of other support like Replenish or nonprofits in the area that can help with the need more readily and so we might have the student start there.

CARE also offers Case Management services, which just means we try to provide the student with as many options of support, specific to their situation so that the student knows there are options for support at a time when they might be overwhelmed or not sure where to find help/support.



The emergency fund I received helped me to buy a laptop where 75% of the cost was covered. As an International student, I have a lot to do and I struggled initially as I don't have enough money to buy a laptop. I explained my family condition as well as my financial situation and requested the Dean of Students Office (Emily) for support to have a laptop. Thus the emergency fund helped me well and I am glad to inform you that I received 3.88 GPA including the Academic Citation Award for Excellence during Winter 2023. - Satya

This semester I received emergency funds from the Dean of Students with the help of Emily First. I was in a financial crisis with my winter classes, due to me withdrawing from classes from grieving. Emily reached out to me with a solution and I felt grateful and stress free from any financial crisis. I would like to take this time to thank Emily First and the Dean of Students for all of their help, the Emergency Funds made a major impact. - Robyn

Thank you, the CARE team, for this assistance; words can't express my gratitude! I'm very thankful to be able to stay in my classes; taking care of this is a huge weight lifted off my shoulders. - Korey



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Winter 2024