



Lansing Community College Foundation|Alumni Association

December 2017

HEROES NEEDED!

Our Heroes Needed! campaign is a way for people to participate in educating and elevating our community. Lansing Community College Foundation is dedicated to increasing the skill level of our workforce, reducing the unemployment rate, and strengthening the Lansing area by removing financial barriers to education and increasing access to resources for students.

Year to date, we have raised over \$36,000 to elevate our community through education and training. With education becoming critical for success, a record number of students are asking for help. LCC Foundation provides approximately 430 scholarships for students. While tuition at LCC is much lower than 4-year institutions, students still face financial challenges. To Be a Hometown Hero and help us provide students with the financial support and access to resources they need to increase their skill level and strengthen our community...

Please visit: lcc.edu/heroesneeded.

SCHOLARSHIP BRINGS INDEPENDENCE FOR STUDENT



During the November 16, 2017 LCC Foundation Board Meeting, attendees were reminded of why their time, energy, and effort to provide scholarships for students matter. A recipient of the Patrons Fund Scholarship, Sarkash Rahim read her thank you letter she wrote to her donors. Instead of the traditional, "thank you for your generosity" letter, she told her story to detail what type of student donors are helping.

Sarkash is from the territory of Kurdistan, a semi-autonomous region, in what we would now consider, northern Iraq. It shares borders with Syria, Turkey and Iran. There are between 25 to 35 million Kurds who inhabit this mountainous region. Though they are united through race and culture, you will find many different creeds, religions, and dialects. In their embattled area, they are united in their desire to find a homeland. This is exactly what Sarkash was looking for: a place to call home.

However, Sarkash coming to the United States is unique. Kurdish immigration to the US is not a new phenomenon. The most popular destination for migrating Kurds is Europe, specifically Germany and France. Approximately 40,000 Kurds live in the States. But most live in Tennessee (estimated 15,000 live in Nashville). Michigan estimates it has 114 Kurdish people living here. Thus, Sarkash ending up in Michigan is very rare, as the majority of Kurds in Michigan live in Wayne, Oakland, and

Macomb counties. So Sarkash finding her way to Lansing, is well, unheard of. So how did someone 6,091 miles away find her way here?

Ms. Rahim told the Board it was her pursuit of education that landed her here.

She garnered the courage to leave a bad situation and fled to Turkey. With the help of the United Nations, she made it to the United States. She eventually found herself in Lansing, Michigan. She stated: "I started all over as an independent, single female who lived by herself, paid her bills, and attended school." She noted in her letter that with dedicating her time and energy to her education, paying rent is her biggest financial burden. Sarkash is working on campus as the student employee for K-12 Operations. This provides her with some income, but she has still taken out many loans to cover the cost of pursuing her dream. As a recipient of the Patrons Fund Scholarship, she can be "less stressed about this month's rent and concentrate well on classes."

She began to close her letter with six simple, yet meaningful statements: "Thank you from a hardworking student to an angel who cares about this community's future. Please walk with a smile. All I can do for now is thank you. I promise to help others as much as I can. I promise to lighten another's burden as well." Then she quoted Dickens, "No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another."

A Kurdish woman landing in Lansing, Michigan; rare. An individual with relentless pursuit of an education despite all of the barriers she faced; priceless.

To be an angel who cares about this community's future and lighten the financial burdens of our students: Click [here](#).

NEW FACE(S) ON CAMPUS



A generous donation from the Granger Foundation helped bring a new face to campus. The clocktower was completed right before Thanksgiving. Standing six stories tall, it

resides on the South side of campus. Dr. Knight made a remark about the clock: "The tower will be a visual centerpiece; a landmark on the LCC campus...and symbolizes the pride of our community." The tower is dedicated to Glenn Granger's parents, Alton and Janice.

Also new, an artistic way for people walking around campus to find their way. At the same time the clocktower was being constructed, a wayfinding tower was erected. The piece glows blue and



green at night and reads in multiple languages. It stands approximately 12 feet tall, and is made from 1/4 inch thick aluminum. The text and iconography were graciously laser-cut by Alro Steel. Mayotte Group Architects assisted with some of the structural engineering, and AIS Construction



#lansingloves
#GIVINGTUESDAY™

GIVING TUESDAY RESULTS

Giving Tuesday is the Tuesday after the Thanksgiving holiday. Started by the Belfer Center for Innovation and Social Impact in 2012, the goal was to connect diverse groups of individuals, communities, and organizations around the world by celebrating and encouraging people to give. It is a global movement intended to empower one another.

The LCC Foundation participated in Giving Tuesday on November 28, 2017. LCC Employees who donate for the event are entered into a drawing for a coveted reserved parking space in any employee lot. This year, the Foundation raised \$8,990 for Scholarships and the Fostering Stars program. We would like to thank everyone who participated in this event and for supporting the LCC community.

To learn more about Giving Tuesday, click [here](#)

Equipment did the final bead-blasting and finishing prior to installation. Interestingly, it was designed and fabricated by LCC staff.

To learn about our new faces on campus:

Click [here](#) and [here](#)

For more on supporting the Fostering Stars Program, click [here](#)

For more on supporting Student Scholarships, click [here](#)



VETERANS MEMORIAL CEREMONY

On November 10, 2017, LCC's Office for Veteran and Military Affairs hosted the Veterans Memorial Induction Ceremony in the Health and Human Services building. Director Andrew Cosgrove, inducted 3 new members: Sergeant Charles "Pete" R. Stultz (Air Force), 1st Lieutenant Winifred J. Barrow (Army), and Sergeant Charles T. Foster (deceased) of the Infantry division. Each inductee received a clear, engraved memorial plaque. 1st Lt. Barrow said of the ceremony: "I was really quite overwhelmed; it was a beautiful service."

If you know of a Veteran who deserves to be honored, contact Director Andrew Cosgrove @ cosgr1@lcc.edu

To read more about the story, click [here](#)

To learn more about our Veterans Program, click [here](#)

To support our Veterans program, click [here](#)

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