

April 27, 2020

Dear Madison Founders Society,

Ginna Bauhan, Jacqueline Painter and I, want to check in with you again. We truly hope this finds you and your families healthy and safe. Working from home has been an experience!

We are so thankful for our JMU facilities management team, our IT services and all the first responders, delivery people, mailpersons, trash collectors, health officials and the others who are helping us to live our day to day in this new unusual way! We are especially proud of our JMU Faculty and Staff. **Collectively** we are joined in creating ways to educate, guide, counsel, support and celebrate our students. **Our students'** strength, adaptability and care for others remind us of how special our Madison family is.

Our student body is just not concerned about upcoming exams. Many are wondering, including many of our incoming freshmen, **if they can afford to return/attend in the fall.**

Some of you have reached out and asked if there is anything you can do to help JMU and our students. This is **extremely thoughtful** of you as we are sure you are experiencing your own personal stress. While there is no way to predict the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we can anticipate more of our students than ever will need financial support. Thankfully, we know how to help. You may remember our Madison For Keeps campaign after the 2008 recession. It was created to help students in emergency financial situations. We have revived **Madison For Keeps** and it is now available for our donors to support students who have been financially impacted by the pandemic and are at risk of not being able to attend JMU. Any gift of any size matters. These one-time grants are applied through and distributed from our Financial Aid office. If you are willing and able to give you can do so through the email you will be receiving around May 5. If you would like to write a check please make it payable to JMU Foundation Inc. and in the memo line write Madison For Keeps. Mail to Advancement Gifts & Records MSC 3603 JMU Harrisonburg, VA 22807. You can also go to www.jmu.edu/give and see 5 other specific areas to support our students during this time.

If you would like to see updates about graduation (virtual & in person plans!), **Presidential updates** and more COVID related information visit the links on www.jmu.edu/covid19. Other actions from the Board of Visitors and faculty & students can be found on <https://www.jmu.edu/news/topics/headlines.shtml>.

Thinking of you and sending all positive energy your way. We are looking forward to the time when we can visit with you and see you back on campus!

With gratitude,

Kathy Sarver, Director
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