

ROGUE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# 2024 Osprey Care Fund Report





# Osprey Care Fund Student Emergency Funds

In May 2020, just as the pandemic was fully underway, RCC began offering emergency funds to students in need.







# \$128,000

*in Osprey Care Funds*

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Between May 2020 and July, 2024  
the Osprey Care Fund Committee  
considered nearly 400 applications,  
developed a rubric, and awarded  
over \$128,000 to students in need  
with a cap of \$500 per student per  
academic year.





*We were asked:*

*Did receiving  
the Osprey  
Care Funds  
help students  
stay in class  
that term?*

*Did they re-  
enroll?*

*Did they  
graduate?*





# Osprey Care Fund Student Overview

## *Finish term?*

279 of 365 students who received an Osprey Care Fund award finished the term.

## *Re-Enroll?*

239 of 365 students who received an Osprey Care Fund award re-enrolled. A few did not re-enroll because they graduated.

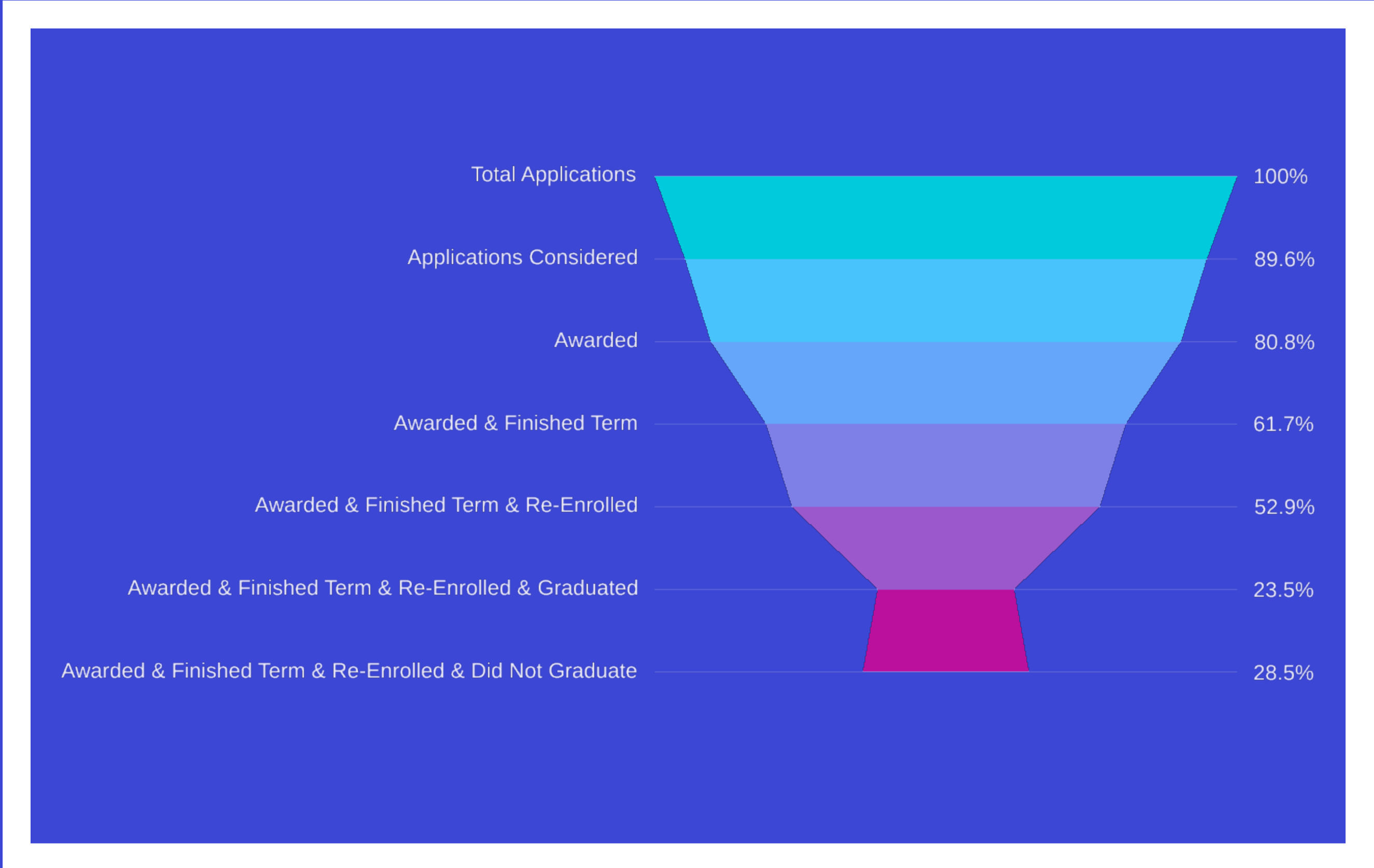
## *Graduate?*

106 of the students who received the award, re-enrolled and graduated. Some didn't re-enroll; they graduated; some students who re-enrolled did not graduate, possibly because they're not finished.



# Osprey Care Fund Applicant Overview

2020 -2024





# The Osprey Care Fund Phone Survey

## RCC's Advocacy and Resource Center called

We contacted 106 students who received funds, completed their term, re-enrolled and graduated. 36 students talked with us.



# OUR FIRST QUESTIONS



## *Did it help?*

We asked all students whether receiving the Osprey Care Fund helped them. Every student said yes.

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## *Should we keep the program going?*

Every student said yes, it helped them, and absolutely keep the Osprey Care Fund going.



## *Did it keep them in school?*

Students talked about how crucial it was to receive the award, and many were on the verge of having to quit school and get a job to pay bills.



A photograph of firefighters at an accident scene, overlaid with a blue tint. In the foreground, a firefighter's back is to the camera, wearing a jacket with "RCC FIRE SCIENCE" printed on it. To the right, another firefighter in a white helmet and blue uniform is using a hydraulic rescue tool on a car's roof. In the background, a white fire investigation team trailer is visible. The scene is outdoors with industrial buildings and a forklift in the distance.

Here are some of  
their stories.



## Very Grateful

I was able to complete RCC while not being employed for 9 months, and graduate, with the help of financial aid.



## It made things easier

Any money I got during college definitely helped. Keep doing what you're doing and you'll get through it.



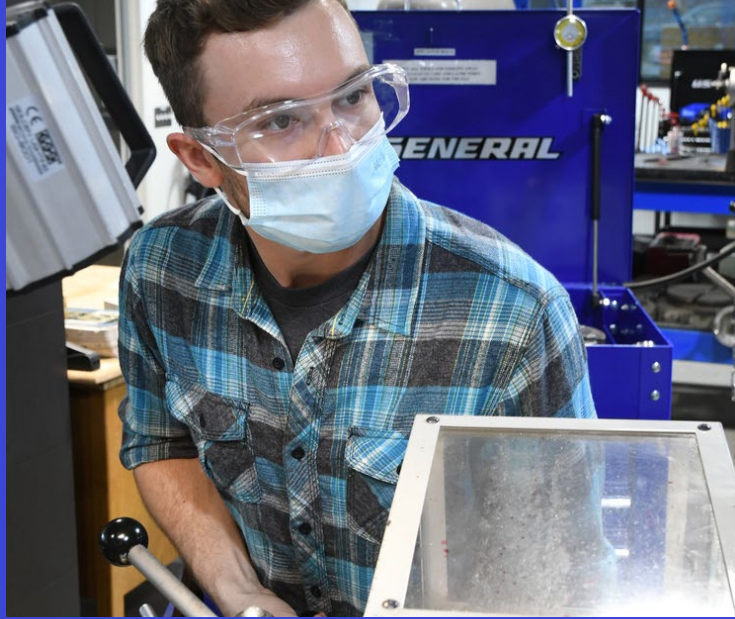
# Such a positive experience with RCC



It was a very rough year in 2020. I received a lot of support. SOHOPE took care of the majority of everything: schooling, books, financial aid; student loans went to pay for cost of living. The Osprey Care Fund was an amazing thing especially when financial hardships come up, and it can hinder someone from continuing their college education. I had quite a few hardships; I had three kids, was in school full time, and had no other financial support. I had such a positive experience with RCC, my daughter enrolled at RCC too!



# WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT WITHOUT THE EMERGENCY FUND



It was really hard supporting not just myself, but my 7-year-old son. That \$500 meant a lot to me as a single parent. Finances were always difficult for me, especially when it came to getting help with my son, with rent and bills. I was beyond grateful.



That summer was wild because nobody was getting financial aid or student loans. I had no money, so that \$500 -- somehow I made it through that summer. It was really hard. Don't know how I made it. It kept me in school.



I wouldn't have been able to go to school and finish without it. Keep the Osprey Care Fund program going. It's a great program and will encourage more people to be educated. Some people don't get an education because they can't afford it.



I was scraping by at that time, trying to get my education going so I could have a better life and my daughter could get a better start. The Osprey Care Fund helped me.



# Emergency Funds

## During Times of Pandemic and Fires

*Suddenly we had to take  
all online classes*

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Most of my classes were changed to online classes due to the pandemic. I got a laptop with the award because mine was broken. Without the Osprey Care Fund I wouldn't have been able to finish my classes and my RN degree online. Definitely wouldn't have finished without the laptop.

*Lost my house in the fires --  
student #1*

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The Osprey Care Fund helped me tremendously. I used that money to purchase textbooks and get back on my feet a little. I considered dropping out that term, but the award helped me stay in class. I continued my education and was able to graduate. Actually, having the fire experience opened up many more opportunities! I'm currently in my dream job.

*Lost my house in the fires --  
student #2*

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When I applied for the Osprey Care Fund I hadn't received any student aid yet; this was an immense help in getting me through. Anything that helps keep the student going is wildly important. Graduating from RCC and going on to SOU completely revolutionized my life. Education has been a 180-degree career change for me.





# PULLED ME OUT OF THE BRINK SEVERAL TIMES...

Did the Osprey Care Fund help? Yes! I used the funds to pay for internet, which was huge, because we had to take online classes. This was at the height of the pandemic. I was working as an essential worker. There was a family emergency and I ended up not working; I stayed home to do daycare and worked from home, trying to do school. Receiving the award has been a serious lifesaver. There are going to be plenty of other people who end up in the same position who will definitely need the help.



## Paid my rent

I was months behind at the time because I didn't get my grant money. All of the resources are very necessary, to eliminate some of the stress. We have a million things piled on us and anything to eliminate stress is a really big help.



## It was a hard time for everybody

2020 was really bad, with the fires and the pandemic. We lost our house. I wanted to continue my education, so I was really appreciative of RCC offering emergency funds. The \$500 I received helped keep me in class.



# Single Mom



When I was going to school, I wasn't working; receiving the Osprey Care Fund enabled me to buy gas and food and things I needed for myself and my son. It helped me stay in school. I could continue with school and not have a job, and not worry I wouldn't be able to afford things like gas and food. Money was pretty tight then. I didn't get a whole lot of financial assistance when I was going to school. RCC should continue the emergency fund for students.



# TOOK A WEIGHT OFF MY SHOULDERS



I was working part-time, working toward the job I have now. Not being a recent high school grad with parent support, what my life looked like was completely different from most RCC students. The resources RCC offered were very helpful.



I wouldn't have had a roof over my head if not for the student funding. Absolutely keep this emergency fund going. You could just walk in there and see anyone; it felt like home. You guys really helped out. It's really important to keep the emergency fund going.



It helped with basic necessities. I work part time due to chronic illness. I had to pay for some class fees, so it helped with that as well. Yes, the emergency fund was worthwhile. It was very helpful.



I was in nursing school at the time and not working. I'm sure it made it a lot less stressful for my family. It was three years ago; I was doing nursing school online, with three kids at home.



# Emergency Funds

## During Personal Emergencies

### *I have a disability*

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It takes me a ridiculous amount of time to do schoolwork. Because of the extra emergency funding I didn't have to do a part-time job PLUS work while going to school, because that would have affected my grades. I used the money to pay the internet bill. College students struggle financially for the most part.

### *Helped me from being evicted*

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The Osprey Care Fund helped pay my rent. When you are coming from scarcity, doing your absolute best trying to get through RCC, it's your pride that gets you down because you don't want to ask for help from your family and friends. If you're hungry and you don't have money to eat, it's very shameful inside. You don't want to reach out to people; your situation gets worse.

### *Just had a baby*

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I was only able to get through school through using financial aid. With the Osprey Care Fund I could get through school and live and not have to drop out. Keep the program. Any extra little bit helps, especially when you're in school, when you're trying to take care of kids, stay in school, feed your family, any little bit helps.



A blue-tinted photograph of a person holding a large osprey bird. The person is wearing a patterned shirt and is looking down at the bird. The osprey is perched on the person's arm, looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing some outdoor structures.

# EVERYTHING HELPED

I wasn't working; I was trying to take 18 credits that term and was freaking out. How it helped? It eased my mind because I was struggling at that time, just working and full-time school. Keep the program going. When you're going to school full-time and only doing school, the emergency fund helps in so many ways; I can't put a finger on it exactly.



## Lost my job during COVID

Our whole family lost our jobs due to the pandemic. I had to leave the nursing program and wait a whole year to get back in. I'm really appreciative of the emergency funds. Absolutely keep the emergency fund going. Really helpful.



## Helped with my mental state

Being able to receive the money helped me with my mental state because I was so stressed out with everything I was worrying about. I didn't have to wonder, oh my gosh, do I quit school so I can take care of this bill?



# Kept my WIFI on



If I hadn't received the Osprey Care Fund, I wouldn't have been able to pay my WIFI bill which kept me enrolled in school at the time. Being a full-time mom of three children and in school and working, it was great to know there was a resource that would enable me to keep my WIFI on. I couldn't go down to Starbucks or McDonald's to use their WIFI. It was greatly appreciated.



# CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH



I started RCC in the CDL program and was working the graveyard shift, then drove in to class. The job I had didn't pay very well and I was running out of money. If I hadn't received the assistance, I wouldn't be in the job of my dreams now. It's been a great help.



Watch the older students too. Being an older student, it's hard to come forward and ask for assistance. A lot of times we try to make things work when things may or may not be possible. People take a hit and drop out when being in school doesn't meet family needs.



I had to rent a car to get to school during one of the hardest terms of all. Thank God I had the help I got. It's those little things, when you're already pushed to the limit and your resources are completely drained, it's the toughest.



I'm really glad I got the support, along with the other help through COVID; it made the difference between graduating and not graduating. I love the culture of support and nurturing at RCC. RCC stands out in that way.



# Emergency Funds

## To Get Started In School and Work

### *Money's always helpful*

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You have to have a specific color of scrubs to do the work I do. The Osprey Care Fund helped make sure I had what I needed for school. This helped me stay in school and get started in my job and be able to drive back and forth to White City. Money's always helpful, especially to a student and a mom!

### *Super -supportive*

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The whole of RCC was super -supportive, the staff and college. I wouldn't have been able to finish my course without the help of RCC. All of my children will be attending RCC. Get the associate's degree at home, then go off... You guys make it so easy to get through that hard transition.

### *Makes the difference*

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For a lot of low-income families, the emergency funds can make a major difference in their lives and be the difference between being able to stay in college or not. RCC should definitely allocate resources to emergency funding. This helps build our upcoming generation. Now I work full-time and attend Oregon State for my bachelor's. I had to ask for emergency assistance there too.



# YOU GUYS ARE GREAT

Working in my present job, having my degree is making it possible to work here. Getting the grants and the resources were very helpful to actually go all the way through and get the degree and finish the degree. Having the degree is helping me out even today; a degree is something they're looking for. Being able to get to a higher position, a degree helps. Now I'm helping my 23 year-old daughter get into RCC. You guys are great about helping someone when you reach out.



## Diverse Demographic

We have a diverse demographic at RCC and to be able to know that you have people who are backing you up and promoting you and wanting you to be better, that's so important. It's important for the community. That's what Rogue is there for.



## I now work as a nurse

I couldn't find family to help care for my child; with those funds I was able to pay for a small daycare to allow me to finish my term. I was a single mom and lived on my own. I was very grateful to receive the award; it helped me finish my term and graduate.



For More Information



[RCC Student Emergency Assistance Programs](#)

[I would like to donate and help more RCC students succeed!](#)