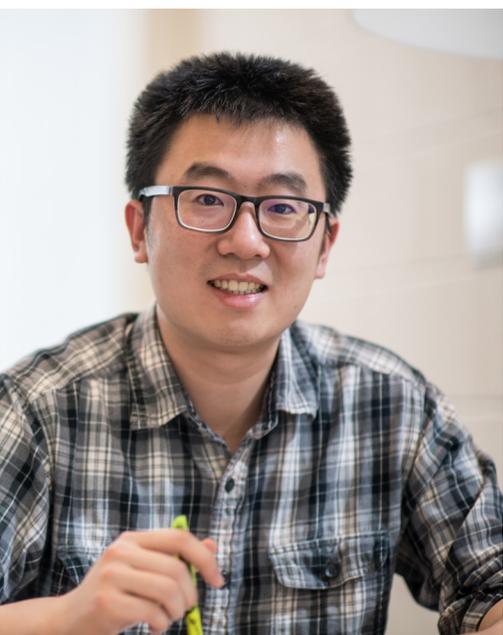


# CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

*One Owl at a Time*

Westfield State Foundation, Inc.  
2018–2019 Impact Report





## WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018—2019

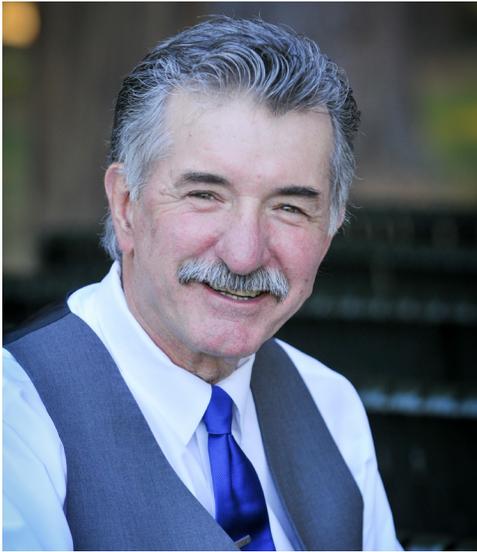
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Cheryl Vieira '08



Dear Friends,

A few years ago, we decided that the title “Annual Report” did not begin to convey the incredible difference philanthropy is making here at Westfield State University. Hence, we began calling this our “Impact Report” as it truly illustrates how even the smallest gift can have an immense impact on our students. That generosity may come in the form of a scholarship, internship, study-abroad funding or additional resources in our classrooms; however, the combined outcome is an enriched educational environment that helps to level the playing field for our students and prepare them well for the future.

On these pages, we have done our best to highlight the many ways that your generosity has transformed lives. You will read about an alumna who spent her career in Springfield steering students into successful careers as teachers and who, even after retiring, wants to continue helping the next generation. You will learn of a very generous grandfather who witnessed the educational evolution of his granddaughter and found a way to honor her and his late wife. You will discover a generous couple originally from Holyoke that now wants to help that community grow and prosper. You will be introduced to a young nursing alumnus, whose scholarship to study abroad for his capstone internship helped him realize why he wanted to become a nurse. Finally, you will meet an esteemed professor emeritus who dedicated much of his life to music education and, together with his family, established a scholarship for future music educators.

Each story is unique to the individuals involved, yet the combined impact illustrates what is strong and vital about our Westfield State family. We have even included a page to highlight that growth!

We are deeply grateful for your generosity and support. There are great plans underway as we begin to shape our future with a renovated and expanded Parenzo Hall as a centerpiece and crown jewel. We hope you will continue to be involved in our exciting philanthropic journey.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Andy Oleksak '69  
*Board Chair  
Westfield State Foundation, Inc.*

Erica Broman, Ed.D.  
*Vice President, Institutional Advancement  
Executive Director, Westfield State Foundation, Inc.*



## A PRICELESS *Gift*

### Study Abroad Scholarship leads to hands-on experience in Guatemala

Louis Nguyen '19 is grateful to have received a study abroad scholarship in his senior year to travel to Guatemala for his capstone internship. He had registered to participate in the course during his junior year, but had to withdraw due to a lack of funds. The nursing program has many “out of pocket” expenses and working to offset the cost is difficult as the coursework is rigorous and requires ample study time. “Without the scholarships that I received, I would not have been able to assist families in Guatemala or become the first person in my family to graduate from college,” Nguyen said.

Marcia Scanlon, Chair of the Nursing Department, says nurses are essential in providing culturally competent care in an ever changing and diverse healthcare system. This immersion experience allows students direct hands on experiences and moves them to think differently about homelessness, access to health care, sanitation, and clean water.

“Visiting with fellow students from our nursing cohort, we helped build a house for a family, supplied local residents with water filters, visited local schools, did arts and crafts with the kids and learned a lot about the Guatemalan

culture,” Louis said. Nguyen learned much about himself because of this mission to Central America. “Before we went, I wondered about my future and my career and this trip helped me to realize why I want to be a nurse. The trip made me see that we live in a very comfortable society and most people face more challenges than we do. It empowered me to believe in how much I can contribute to improve the lives of others.”

“Without the scholarships that I received, I would not have been able to assist families in Guatemala or become the first person in my family to graduate from college.”

In addition to working part-time jobs while studying at Westfield State to pay for his education and help his family, he worked as a student nurse at Baystate Medical Center. In July, after passing his boards, Nguyen accepted a position in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Baystate residency program, and in the future, he hopes to conduct research and create policies to advocate for the LGBT population. This future might not have been possible without the generosity of others.



“This scholarship gives me the chance to focus on what matters most, my studies.”



## PHILANTHROPY *Across Generations*

Joselmang Leon welcomed the opportunity to meet the couple who generously donated the funding for the scholarship that he received. Over the summer, Jose and his wife Estefany joined Victor and Mariellen Quillard for lunch on campus, where the two couples had the opportunity to spend some time getting to know one another.

The Quillards generously donated \$100,000 to both Westfield State University and Holyoke Community College (HCC) to establish scholarships at each institution. The scholarship at Westfield State gives preference to Holyoke residents of Latino heritage who transfer from HCC and have a minimum GPA of 2.75.

Victor, a retired president of Hampden Savings Bank, and his wife Mariellen are Holyoke natives. “We both feel that Holyoke was a great city in which to grow up. We want to support its continued rebirth by helping the next generation. Funding scholarships that will assist students completing a degree and returning to the city will help it prosper. Our support of these scholarships at Westfield State and HCC are a tangible way that we can do that,” said Victor and Mariellen.

Jose is the first student to benefit from this unique scholarship. Growing up in a single-parent household, Jose discovered early on that struggling was a part of life. After studying culinary arts in Puerto Rico, he joined the Army where he learned that discipline and dedication were required to be successful. After moving to Holyoke and marrying, both he and his wife decided to go back to school. His life experience and personal strength provided him the discipline to graduate with a 3.2 GPA from HCC while working full time.

Jose is grateful to be the inaugural recipient of Victor and Mariellen’s scholarship. “This scholarship gives me the chance to focus on what matters most, my studies,” said Jose. “After I graduate, I want to work at developing new technologies that will assist returning veterans.” With the benefit of the Quillard scholarship, Jose will be able to do that and more.



## GRAND GESTURE *for Granddaughter*

### Land donation will benefit Environmental Science students for decades

Over a half-century ago, Gerald Davis of Agawam bought a house and 40 acres of land in Southwick with his late wife, Christina (McLaren) Davis. They renovated the home, developed the property, and had two children. The Davises felt joy on Granville Road—until his wife passed away in 1978.

When Davis's granddaughter, Holly Walsh '17, was a student in Environmental Science at Westfield State University, she invited him to a presentation during her senior year. Davis learned about the research and land surveys the students were doing along roadways in Westfield. He walked away with the idea to donate the land he and Christina owned to Westfield State, in her memory.

This spring, with Davis's permission, the land he gifted was sold. Half of the proceeds created the Christina (McLaren) Davis Environmental Science Scholarship, while the remaining funds will support Environmental Science Department initiatives.

"It makes me feel good that Christina will be remembered this way," says Davis. He adds that

Holly—who now works for Tighe & Bond—highly approved of his idea.

In addition to Davis's generosity, the purchaser, Terri Bennett of Southwick, has granted Westfield State an easement to the land that allows students access to the back field. "I am glad to help the students with an outdoor classroom. They are our future," she says. John E. McDonald Jr., Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Environmental Science says, "The land allows us to do hands-on experiments in which students get to apply classroom knowledge and make connections. Access to this property will give us a much better field experience for all our students."

"These gifts will enhance learning opportunities for students in the classroom and in the field for years to come," says Jennifer A. Hanselman, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Mathematics and Sciences. "This is a wonderful tribute to the strength of the Environmental Science program, its faculty, and the 150 students who will benefit in some way from this generous donation."

## INSPIRING *Others*

When Veta Daley came to the United States from Jamaica, she says that Westfield State University was really the nucleus of her journey. “Westfield is always home for me, and it made me into what I am today,” she says. Daley received her bachelor’s in 1987 and her master’s in 1991 and went on to a thirty-two-year career in education in the Springfield Public Schools, where she served as a teacher, principal, and chief schools officer.

“Think about how powerful it would be if all of us decided to give back to our communities.”

When Daley retired in 2018, she established the “Veta Daley Scholarship Fund: *Reach to Teach* Partnership “at Westfield” along with her family. “It was important to me to establish that scholarship because the next generation of teachers needs to impact students, especially in urban areas,” explains Daley.

The scholarship will assist African American or Caribbean American graduates from Springfield Public Schools attend Westfield with a major in education. Students who receive the scholarship will participate in the *Reach to Teach* program, a groundbreaking partnership between Westfield State and the Springfield Public Schools that supports students of color who intend to teach in the Springfield Public Schools after graduation. By participating in *Reach to Teach*, students are guaranteed a job. They are also supported with valuable mentorships throughout the process.



Veta Daley and Isiah Gregory '19, participant in the *Reach to Teach* program

Daley believes that these mentorships — in *Reach to Teach* and beyond at an administrative level — are what create true access in education. She credits her own mentors with shaping her educational and career path and showing her what a positive impact she could have on students’ lives. “It’s education that’s going to break all barriers,” she says. “Education is the passport to the future.” She says that if students in the Springfield Public Schools see that teachers who came from the Springfield Public Schools, just like them, can make it, they’ll realize that they can too.

It was an easy decision to create a scholarship that gives back to the community that started her career, Daley says. Since establishing it, she’s spoken to other Westfield alumni who have been similarly inspired, telling her that they plan to do something similar when they retire. For Daley, her education at Westfield changed the course of her career and allowed her to inspire hundreds of students’ lives along the way. She says, “Think about how powerful it would be if all of us decided to give back to our communities.”

## MUSICALLY *Inclined*

### Talented Dalton resident receives first Rogers Music Merit Scholarship

Due to her many musical talents, Sydney Andrews is the first recipient of the George and Merian Rogers Music Merit Scholarship. Andrews gladly accepted this merit award. “I’m grateful and honored to have received the scholarship among all the musicians in my class,” she said. “Westfield State has an excellent music program and during my visits I felt a strong sense of community.”

The scholarship, awarded annually to first-year full-time students enrolling as music majors, is one of our first renewable scholarships, meaning the student can receive the award for up to eight semesters.



Andrews earned a 4.0 GPA at Wahconah Regional High School, where she participated in the School’s concert and pep bands, was secretary of the National Honor Society, as well as treasurer of the Dalton Rotary interact club. She learned how to play the flute, trumpet, and the alto and tenor saxophones. “I also kept trying to learn instruments on my own and was able to play an instrument in the band wherever I was needed,” said Andrews. “I like knowing the perspectives anywhere in the band.”



The Rogers were thrilled to provide an opportunity for future students to advance their musical acumen at the University by endowing a scholarship. Professor Emeritus George Rogers directed Westfield State’s music education program for 21 years, retiring in 2009.

Dr. Andrew Bonacci, Chair of the Department of Music, shares that “Dr. George Rogers left a legacy of excellence in leading our music education program here at Westfield. He mentored hundreds of students who are currently teaching music in the public schools throughout New England. Merian Rogers maintained a distinguished career as a music educator for 22 years, and she left an enduring legacy of appreciation for music and music literacy for a generation of students.”

Sydney Andrews has a clear mission for her future, “I’d like to teach music after I graduate and would love to do it back in my hometown,” she said. Thanks to George and Merian Rogers, she is on her way to achieving that goal.



## SHOW OFF YOUR *Westfield Pride*

In honor of the City of Westfield's 350th anniversary, the Westfield State Foundation, Inc. initiated a scholarship for the most academically gifted students from each of Westfield's secondary schools. The genesis of this "Westfield Pride" scholarship came from the members of the Foundation's scholarship committee.

While this scholarship concept was in development, the Foundation was exploring the idea of creating a Westfield tartan that would celebrate the relationship between the City of Westfield and the University. The Foundation brought the two ideas together and commissioned the creation of a Westfield State University–City of Westfield tartan.

The color selections for the tartan come from the blending of the University colors and the colors of all the city's secondary schools. The resulting Westfield tartan is registered with the Scottish Register of Tartans in Edinburgh, Scotland; there is no other tartan like it. In an effort to fund the Westfield Pride Scholarship, the Foundation developed scarves, ties, and keychains out of the

tartan fabric. Proceeds from the sale of these items, along with donations from the Westfield community, directly fund the scholarship. To date, over \$50,000 has been raised.

"Receiving the Westfield Pride Scholarship has shown me that my city cares about its students and has invested in our future. Now I will be able to pursue my dream of becoming a Physician's Assistant, and give back to my community."

– Julia Maryanski, Scholarship recipient

Each year, the high schools in Westfield will submit the name of the student with the highest GPA who has been accepted and chosen to attend the University to receive the scholarship. To make a donation in support of the Westfield Pride Scholarship or to purchase your Westfield tartan items, visit [westfieldalumni.org/tartan](http://westfieldalumni.org/tartan).

# ALBERT AND AMELIA FERST

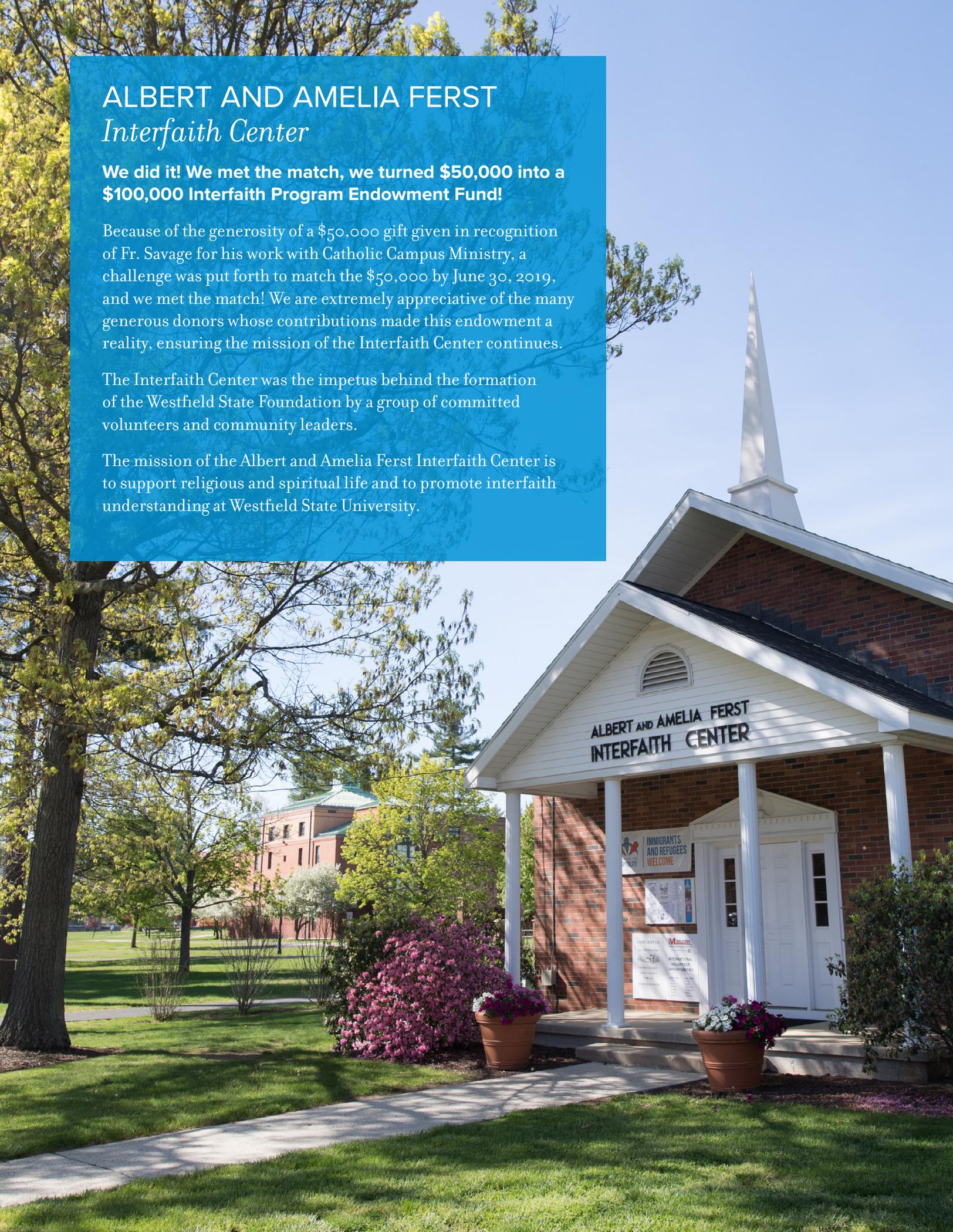
## *Interfaith Center*

**We did it! We met the match, we turned \$50,000 into a \$100,000 Interfaith Program Endowment Fund!**

Because of the generosity of a \$50,000 gift given in recognition of Fr. Savage for his work with Catholic Campus Ministry, a challenge was put forth to match the \$50,000 by June 30, 2019, and we met the match! We are extremely appreciative of the many generous donors whose contributions made this endowment a reality, ensuring the mission of the Interfaith Center continues.

The Interfaith Center was the impetus behind the formation of the Westfield State Foundation by a group of committed volunteers and community leaders.

The mission of the Albert and Amelia Ferst Interfaith Center is to support religious and spiritual life and to promote interfaith understanding at Westfield State University.



# WESTFIELD STATE FOUNDATION, INC.

(A COMPONENT OF WESTFIELD STATE UNIVERSITY)

## Statements of Financial Position

June 30, 2019

### ASSETS

	2019	2018
<b>Assets:</b>		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 70,741	\$ 137,900
Restricted cash and equivalents	67,863	30,903
Unconditional promises to give, net	458,017	586,696
Other assets	24,325	1,493
Investments	10,342,524	9,274,245
Property and equipment, net	75,809	93,888
Property held for future development	360,877	360,877
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$11,400,156</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,486,002</u></b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Line of credit	\$ 7,200	\$ 64,800
Accounts Payable	2,130	7,424
Deferred revenue	3,500	4,300
Agency funds held	221,642	230,332
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$234,472</u></b>	<b><u>\$306,856</u></b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Without donor restrictions	\$ 300,500	\$ 292,994
With donor restrictions	10,865,184	9,886,152
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$11,165,684</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,179,146</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$11,400,156</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,486,002</u></b>

# THE YEAR IN GIVING

July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

ALUMNI DONORS  
*are represented in every class from*  
**1949-2019**



# 1,000+

ALUMNI, PARENTS, STUDENTS,  
& FRIENDS FROM **40 STATES**  
*made a gift to Westfield State*

*The Westfield State Foundation awarded*

# \$277,260

IN SCHOLARSHIP AID TO  
273+ DESERVING STUDENTS



136 MEMBERS  
of the Owl Club raised nearly

# \$150K

600+ #GiveAHoot DONORS  
**GAVE OVER \$54,000**

## AN IMPACTFUL YEAR BECAUSE OF YOU

# 45% INCREASE

*in first time donors over the prior year*

DONORS  
SUPPORTED

# 109 AREAS

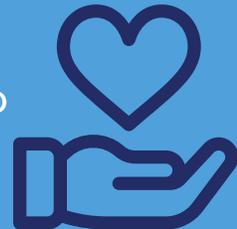
*that mattered  
to them*



129 DONORS GAVE NEARLY

# \$31K

IN MEMORY OR  
IN HONOR OF  
SOMEONE WHO  
*impacted  
their lives*



*We hit a record of*

# 95

ENDOWED  
SCHOLARSHIPS

*Thank you for donating!*



The Westfield  
Promise

# You can make a difference!

OPPORTUNITY	GIFT	YOUR IMPACT
<b>Westfield Fund</b> Unrestricted (Area of Greatest Need), Financial Assistance, and Internships	<b>ANY</b>	Opens doors for current students by supporting critical philanthropic priorities of WSU.
<b>Student Scholarships</b>	<b>ANY</b>	An impactful way to make a difference while honoring a family member, friend, or colleague or supporting programs and causes that are meaningful to you.
<b>Sponsor-A-Student</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	Support a single student with a one-time scholarship award in your name or the name of a loved one. (We will share with you the name of your student and the impact of your gift.)
<b>Sponsor-An-Intern</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	Support a deserving student's passion for real world practice by underwriting a powerful semester long experience.
<b>Travel Abroad Experience</b>	<b>\$1,000+</b>	Sponsor a student's, once-in-a-lifetime experience, as they immerse themselves in a foreign culture for a semester. Many of our students have only dreamed of this opportunity!
<b>Owl Club Athletics</b>	<b>ANY</b>	Aid the Westfield State Owl Club in support of all teams.
<b>Last Mile</b>	<b>\$1,000+</b>	Many of our seniors struggle with finances or unforeseen obstacles; this fund comes at the critical "last mile" to graduation, assuring a pathway for the student to complete their degree.
<b>Endowed Scholarship</b>	<b>\$15,000+</b>	Generate income in perpetuity by naming a fund for whatever purpose you chose.
<b>Albert And Amelia Ferst Interfaith Center</b>	<b>ANY</b>	Directly benefits the programming of the Interfaith Center as they support our Westfield State students.
<b>Common Goods Food Pantry</b>	<b>ANY</b>	Directly supports our campus food pantry and our students struggling with food insecurity.
<b>FSSN</b> (Fostering Student Success Network) <i>Supporting F.A.C.E.S.</i>	<b>ANY</b>	Committed to supporting current and former foster youth and homeless youth.
<b>Bequest Intention</b>	<b>ANY</b>	Bequeath a portion of your will, insurance, or retirement asset to be used for any of the aforementioned purposes.
<b>Charitable Gift Annuity</b>	<b>\$50,000+</b>	Support any designation while receiving tax guaranteed income for life.

For more information, contact Bonnie Clark Hanson at 413-572-8631,  
bclark@westfield.ma.edu or visit westfield.ma.edu.



WESTFIELD STATE  
FOUNDATION

Westfield  
STATE UNIVERSITY

The Westfield State Foundation, Inc. is profoundly grateful to our many donors. Please find our Honor Roll of Donors at [westfield.ma.edu/donors](https://westfield.ma.edu/donors)

If interested in supporting Westfield State students, please contact Bonnie Clark Hanson at 413-572-8631 or [bclark@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:bclark@westfield.ma.edu) for information.

[westfield.ma.edu/Foundation](https://westfield.ma.edu/Foundation)