

760-744-1150, Ext. 3103 • www.palomar.edu/foundation

Judy Cater
Palomar College Retirees' Association
1140 West Mission Road
San Marcos, CA 92069

Dear Judy and all the PACRA Members:

We thank PACRA and its members for their compassion and generosity in making a \$2,000 donation for use in assisting Palomar College students affected by the pandemic.

Your gift is far more than monetary. It is a gift of care and concern for the students who have suffered devastating consequences as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As you know, many of our students are of modest economic means; many depended on part-time jobs (sometimes two of them) in order to pay for their opportunity to pursue a college degree. As those jobs were eliminated during the pandemic, the financial position of these students went from difficult to dire. At the same time, they had additional expenses associated with the need to suddenly take classes entirely online, including the need to acquire computers and pay for internet access that was no longer accessible to them on campus.

Our ability—with your assistance—to help these students is making all the difference in the world. Already stressed in multiple ways, without our assistance many of these students would have just dropped out. Historically, the vast majority of students who stop taking classes do *not* enroll again, their best intentions notwithstanding. Without a college degree and preparation for well-paid jobs with promising futures, they enter the workforce in minimum-wage positions that offer little to no opportunity for growth.

Your gift has changed the course of lives. It has made it possible for us to say "yes" to requests for assistance and keep students enrolled, engaged, and making progress toward their degree.

PACRA members have always been strong and caring partners in education. At this moment, you have stepped forward in a very meaningful way.

On behalf of the many students who will benefit, thank you.

Sincerely,

Stacy Rungaitis

Executive Director

Gift Date:

Gift Supported:

Gift Amount:

6/3/2021

Emergency Fund

\$2,000.00