



## **Alumnae Association of Wilson College Silver Lining Fund**

A brief history and description: During the 2014-2015 academic year several experiences occurred with students needing emergency funds in the face of an immediate crisis. These crises directly impacted the students' ability to continue their education at Wilson. In each case help was provided and the student was helped to make appropriate contacts for potential assistance.

Out of these experiences an idea was launched at the Alumnae Association Board meeting in June 2015. Therefore, the Alumnae Association of Wilson College is starting a fund for students who are experiencing times of crisis or need. The Silver Lining Fund, as it is to be called, would provide the student with a limited amount of immediate cash to get through the initial crisis and begin to focus on problems that are creating the emergency. Restricted donations will provide the money to have on hand for such gifts. The Executive Board of the Association recognizes several principles in creating such a fund. These are:

1. Students have the right to have their anonymity protected in such situations.
2. The assistance offered is a gift not a loan and is not expected to be reimbursed.
3. For these purposes, a student at Wilson will be defined as someone currently enrolled for at least three credits in a degree program offered by the college.

### Guidelines:

1. A student experiencing an immediate crisis situation that directly affects the safety or the ability to continue educational progress here at Wilson, contacts the Dean of Students. The Dean will meet with the Director of Alumnae/i Relations for disbursement of support from the Silver Lining Fund. Some examples may be: a student suddenly left homeless or without adequate resources for food, a student with a transportation emergency. These are by no means the only circumstances under which funds may be granted.
2. The student makes the case for assistance, describing the crisis and what other steps have been/are being taken to alleviate the problem. In each case the Dean of Students will help the student make connections with resources and support for further assistance.
3. If the student has demonstrated a need, the Director of Alumnae/i Relations has the authority to give up to \$75 worth of assistance to the student. For any amount over \$75, the Director of Alumnae/i Relations will contact the chair of Student and Parent Relations Committee for review and decision.
4. Students are only eligible for this emergency gift once per term.
5. The Director of Alumnae/i Relations will report to the Alumnae Association Board at each meeting any disbursement from the Silver Lining Fund through the Student Parent Relations committee while maintaining confidentiality.
6. These guidelines can be changed by the Student and Parent Relations committee bringing a request to the Alumnae Association Board.