**NOVEMBER 2024** 

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



### Make a gift today!

The Marshalltown Education Partnership (MEP) is a collaboration between students and their families, educators and community supporters to ensure a strong citizenry for Marshalltown. The program first launched in 2006 with a group of eight students. Currently, it serves more than 258 high school and college students. It is through generous contributions that we continue to provide support for youth by helping them achieve post-secondary education.

### You can help students go to college! Give to:

- The MEP fund that helps students **today** with scholarships and mentoring. (A gift to this fund is tax deductible.)
- The MEP Endowment is a permanent fund which will **assure scholarship funds for years to come.** (A gift to this fund is eligible for the <u>Endow Iowa 25% Tax Credit</u> in addition to the normal federal tax deduction.)
- A variety of giving options are available including (but not limited to) cash, stocks or bonds, and gifts of grain or farmland.
- A bequest could create a personal legacy for you or your family, and is an easy way to help in the future.
- These funds are part of the Family of Funds managed by the Community Foundation of Marshall County, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines.

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Address:	City:	
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I would like to make a donation to the I would like to make a donation to the \$ (Eligible for Endow low	ne MEP Endowment to help tomor	
I would like to make a multiple year	pledge of \$ for	years.
		nd" or "Marshalltown Education

# Making a difference!

For nearly 20 years, the Marshalltown Education Partnership program (MEP) has made an impact on approximately 5,000 Marshalltown High School students. Through support services and the use of scholarships, the program has shown success, with its scholars achieving a 60% graduation rate from Marshalltown Community College (MCC).

It has been over two decades since MEP's initial fundraising campaign, and once again it is at the forefront for its board. The effort aims to raise \$1 million to continue the MEP program.

The program is unique due to the collaboration between the Marshalltown Community School District, MCC, and businesses and organizations throughout the community that commit funds to expand educational opportunities for first-generation students. The fundraising process involves reaching out to former and new potential donors in Marshalltown to help fund the program. Two





of the founding contributors, Emerson and Martha Ellen Tye, have already committed \$250,000 each over the length of 5 years. MEP will also showcase success stories of past scholars, and the impact of the scholarship on their lives and on Marshalltown.

By engaging the community and demonstrating the importance of the program, these efforts can inspire generous contributions. Every dollar raised helps to alleviate the financial burden on students, allowing them to focus on their studies and future aspirations. MEP is a powerful way to support students in achieving their educational goals.

### MEP Fund

**MEP Endow Iowa Fund** 



Donate to support MEP students



MCC Provost, Matt Schmit, PhD

"The Marshalltown Educational Partnership is a fantastic conduit for all students within the community to pursue post-secondary education. This collaboration between educational institutions and community partners will create opportunities for high school students that do not exist in many communities. My goal as MCC Provost is to expand career pathways quided by local workforce needs and build upon this already successful partnership."



#### Our Mission

The Marshalltown Education Partnership (MEP) is doing our part in contributing to Marshalltown's economic development efforts. Our goal is to help sustain Marshalltown as a "Best in Class" community. MEP is dedicated to educating students about postsecondary education.

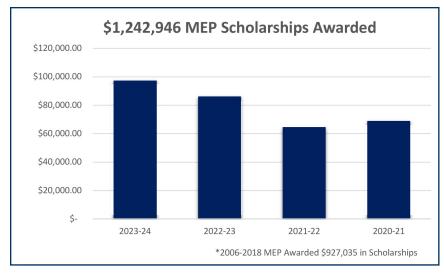
#### Scholarship Requirements

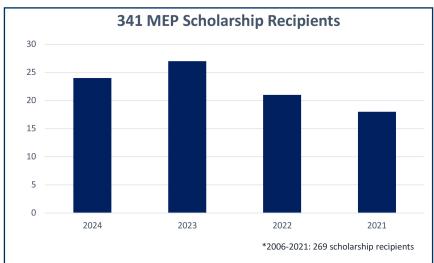
- Students must apply for the MEP program prior to the end of their first semester at MHS
- Students must be a first generation college student (neither parent has a bachelor's degree or higher)
- Students must demonstrate financial need
- Students must maintain a GPA of 2.75 or be ranked in the top 50% of their MHS class
- Students must maintain 90% attendance at MHS

#### MEP Goals

- Students will meet the MEP scholarship requirements.
- Students will enroll in a postsecondary institution.
- MEP students attending MCC will complete either a certificate or/and an associate's degree.

In the past 18 years, **MEP has granted** scholarships to 341 students to attend Marshalltown **Community College!** 





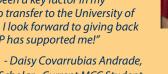


"The MEP scholarship is helping me reach my goal financially. I am very grateful and thankful because I can pursue my career in Elementary Education. My plans after completing 2 years at MCC is to transfer to the University of Northern Iowa and get my

- Mu Say, 2024 MEP Scholar, Current MCC student

"MEP has been incredibly helpful and supportive throughout my education. The program provided essential resources and guidance, helping me set and achieve my academic goals and dreams of becoming a nurse. The encouragement was invaluable and allowed me to be able to pursue a higher level of education! Currently, I am in the LPN nursing program after having completed my prerequisite classes while in high school, and I hope to graduate from MCC as a RN nurse this year. The skills and knowledge I've gained have prepared me for a career in healthcare. MEP's support has been a key factor in my success! After graduation, I plan to transfer to the University of lowa to obtain my BSN in nursing. I look forward to giving back and supporting others, just as MEP has supported me!"

- Daisy Covarrubias Andrade, 2024 MEP Scholar • Current MCC Student



#### 2024 MEP students at MCC New Student Orientation



## MEP is currently serving 342 students at Marshalltown High School:

• 82 seniors • 79 juniors • 106 sophomores • 75 freshman



I was able to attend MCC in general. If it weren't for the MEP program, I would not have been able to attend financially. The scholarship also provided encouragement that helped me get started. After graduation, I took a break then attended Buena Vista and studied to be a teacher."

- Bat-Seba Ocampo, MCC Class of 2014 Bilingual Preschool Teacher at Woodbury **Elementary School in Marshalltown** 



"MEP helped me through MCC by giving me support and helping me with any questions or issues I encountered along my journey. I am now attending lowa tate University pursuing a Finance Degree and have yet to decide on a minor.'

> - Brayden Weatherly, MCC Class of 2024 Iowa State University Student

**Foundation Sponsors** 

• Emerson-Fisher

• Marshalltown Community College

• Marshalltown Community Schools

• Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation

Lennox Manufacturing

• JBS

• UnityPoint Health - Marshalltown

• Angela Fritz, Emerson-Fisher • Heidi Dalal, Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation • Dr. Matt Schmit, Marshalltown Community College • Nate Chua, Marshalltown Community College • Shari King, Unity Point Health • Rebecca Whalen, Marshalltown High School • Dr. Theron Schutte, Marshalltown Community School District

• Jacque Wyant, Marshalltown Community School District

• Terry Buzbee, Community Entrepreneur & MEP Board President

• Kate Bowermaster, Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce

Jenner D Bates, Lennox

**Board Members** 

• Jesus Rios, Emerson-Fisher

• Abigail Hillers, Brown Winick Law

• Karina Hernandez, MEP Program Coordinator

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