

Student Emergency Fund Impact Report

You were there for our Bennies – Spring 2020



On March 16, when campus closed at the College of Saint Benedict in response to the spreading COVID-19 pandemic, our students faced a lot of unexpected change. Academic change was just part of the picture. Students were told to quickly return to their homes. For some, that was a challenge. For others, it was essentially impossible.

Even with generous scholarship support, many of our students budget carefully to manage the cost of college. Unexpected travel home is not built into most of those budgets. **Fortunately, the Saint Ben's Student Emergency Fund** was in place. And, even more fortunately, alumnae and friends just like you rose up to help fill that fund and serve those students in this time of unusual need.

Since March 16, **344 donors** have given **\$65,230** to the fund. In addition, the Saint Ben's Student Senate generously contributed **\$20,000** to support their peers in this difficult time.



The Student Emergency Fund helped **65 students** travel over **159,000 miles** – by planes, trains and automobiles – to get safely home.



We helped pay for food and hotels as needed during travel.



Money from the Student Emergency Fund helped Bennies in unexpected need handle day-to-day living expenses (like rent).

100%

of students who requested financial aid received it. (That's 90 Bennies in need.)



Even if we couldn't all be together for commencement in May, the Student Emergency Fund helped ship caps and gowns to graduating seniors so everyone could look the part!