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TO: The Lakeland Foundation Board & Friends
FROM: Greg Sanders
DATE: April 3, 2020
SUBJ: The Lakeland Foundation Friday Update

I want to begin today's Update by thanking **you**, the Lakeland family, for **ALL** that you've done in support of our students over the past few weeks. We have been bowled over by your generosity.

Today, I thought you might like to hear from a Lakeland student who shares your desire to help others who are experiencing great need in this crisis. Here's an excerpt of an email that was received by our human resources staff this week regarding the issuance of this young person's paycheck as a student worker at the college:

"Hope all is well and safe with you and your families during this difficult time," the student began. "I would like to send my gratitude in your generosity in sending payment for work not fulfilled [which was scheduled but, due to the closure, no longer possible] in the workplace. Again, so generous of Lakeland to do this for their employees."

Our student then continued...

"With that being said, I come from a family with a single mom and I know times like these can be a struggle. But fortunately, my mom still has her job, though it's extremely and slowly withering away, but in time, we know it's going to bounce back and right now she is ok, WE ARE OK! We both have an income, but with me working at [a local hospital], I definitely have been putting in some long hours.

"So what I would like to do with your help is to please find someone in our Lakeland family who could use [the money] that you were going to give to me. Again, I truly thank you for the generosity, but I don't feel right taking money when I don't truly need it, knowing there are others out there that do. If you are able to help me to succeed in this donation, please know that my name doesn't have to be attached....My goal is only to help somebody, that's it!"

My staff and I were extremely moved by this student's selfless gesture, extended at a time when the family's circumstances are tolerable but clearly tight. Our admiration only grew knowing the student studies and works in a field that has become the first line of defense against this pandemic. I hope it makes you feel as proud to support our remarkable Lakeland students as it does us.

I hope you and yours are well. And, as always, thank you so much for all you do for our community college.

Most sincerely,

Greg

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