



Rhodes Community,

Rhodes remains steadfast in its commitments to maintain a compassionate, welcoming, diverse, and inclusive community, and wants all members of our campus community to achieve their personal and professional goals without the constraint of unexpected financial challenges derailing their plans.

To better support our students, faculty, and staff, the **Mel Richey Compassionate Care Funds** have been established, one for students and one for faculty and staff. The funds are named in honor of Mel Richey, who served as dean of student affairs and most recently as the executive assistant to the president until her retirement in July 2022. During her almost 30 years at the college, Mel worked tirelessly on behalf of students, faculty, and staff. She has many talents that she brought to her work at Rhodes, but she is best known for her work supporting students, faculty, and staff dealing with emergency situations, often doing so behind the scenes.

The **Mel Richey Student Compassionate Care Fund** will assist Rhodes students who encounter an unforeseen and urgent financial emergency or events which would otherwise prevent them from continuing their education at Rhodes. For example, the Funds can help students who need to get home quickly because of a family medical emergency. These funds are not intended to be used for routine expenses or as a consistent supplement to a student's education funding sources. The primary goal is to help students during a time of need to stay in school and to graduate from Rhodes. More detailed information about the application process and the terms can be found [at this link](#).

Similarly, the **Mel Richey Employee Compassionate Care Fund** will assist Rhodes faculty and staff who are experiencing a temporary hardship because of a significant life event. More detailed information about the application process and the terms can be found [at this link](#). These funds will be entirely supported by philanthropic gifts.

Members of the Rhodes community are invited to make tax-deductible gifts to the Mel Richey Compassionate Care Funds by visiting [Rhodes.edu/gift](https://rhodes.edu/gift). Please note in the comment section whether you are contributing to the Student or Employee Compassionate Care Fund.

Employees can also do payroll deduction to this in addition to the Annual Fund. Please email tamburrino@rhodes.edu for more information on payroll deduction. Gifts can be made in honor of Mel Richey by noting in the comments section. For more information or any questions regarding making a gift or a multi-year pledge, please contact Jenna Goodloe Wade at goodloe@rhodes.edu or Amanda Tamburrino '98 at tamburrino@rhodes.edu.

A hallmark of Rhodes is our faculty, staff, and students' compassion for one another. We are delighted that the Mel Richey Compassionate Care Funds will serve as another expression of how our community can support fellow Lynx in their time of need.

Jennifer Collins

President
Rhodes College

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