

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
Christopher M. Reber, Ph. D.



March 21, 2020

Dear Friends,

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are living in a time of unprecedented uncertainty. Everyone is worried about their health and safety, as well as that of their family and friends. There is also a great deal of justified anxiety about the economic well-being of thousands of individuals and families in our community, especially those who are already living on the edge of poverty and financial disaster.

**The one and only thing we know is this: We will get through all of this together.**

The entire Hudson County Community College family – our dedicated trustees, faculty, staff, students and administrators – have joined forces. We have developed and committed to plans that address the academic, health, physical, and financial needs of our students, staff and community during these troubling times. Our plans help ensure that students receive the best academic instruction and continuing support. To that end, we are moving all instruction online, and most staff are already providing support services remotely. That support also extends to those who are ill, who care for sick or infirmed family members, take care of children, and whose livelihood is impacted by the pandemic.

Many of our students are among the most vulnerable in Hudson County. In a recent survey, 49 percent of HCCC student respondents reported experiencing food insecurity in the prior 30 days; 58 percent experienced housing insecurities in the prior year; and 14% experienced homelessness in the prior year.

Clearly, the COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating these challenges.

Last year, we created “Hudson Helps” to begin addressing the basic needs beyond the classroom that can roadblock students’ success. Thanks to the generosity of the people and businesses of Hudson County, we established two food pantries, and have organized a variety of programs and services that provide emergency assistance including housing, health care referrals and shelter. At the present time, our resources are wearing thin, and we need your help.

**I am asking you to join with us today in supporting our students with a donation to the HCCC “Hudson Helps” program, which is administered by the HCCC Foundation.**

Your tax-exempt donation will go a long way in helping us ensure that those HCCC students and their families who are in need receive the resources and support that will make a transformational difference in their lives now.

I often use the word, “inspirational” to describe our students, and they truly are. You and your generosity are inspirational as well.

**TO HELP GO TO: <https://www.hccc.edu/FoundationDonor/>**

Thank you in advance for your assistance. Please be safe.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher M. Reber  
President