

For Friends and Supporters of the MCC Foundation & MCC Alumni



# THANK YOU FOR LENDING A HAND

Back in late March (which feels like a lifetime ago!) we reached out to let you know that the MCC Foundation's McKown Emergency Fund and Paulanne's Pantry are here to help students facing incredible hardships due to COVID-19. Little did we know just how long and devastating the pandemic would be, with still no end in sight.

Since March, MCC faculty and staff, community friends, and community organizations have opened their hearts to our students through generous

direct gifts and increases to their monthly giving to support these funds. To date, the "Lend a Hand" campaign has raised almost \$79,000 for direct student aid related to the COVID-19 disruption. Thank you, thank you! Your care is ensuring that MCC students can survive these challenging times and stay on track to graduation or career.

Between March and June, MCC employee monthly giving increased by an incredible 30 percent, with most of these gifts directed to



Directional signs to help students locate the pantry's curbside location

The newly redesigned Paulanne's Pantry Curbside logo.

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Follow us on social media!





www.mclennan.edu/foundation

# THANK YOU FOR LENDING A HAND

Continued

the McKown Emergency Fund and Paulanne's Pantry. Numerous individual community friends donated generously to assist students in need, and one supporter hired an out-of-work scholar to help him earn income!

Among those community organizations supporting the "Lend a Hand" campaign was H-E-B, who we were proud to recognize on directional signs for the Paulanne's Pantry curbside pickup lane. We



MCC Success Coach Spike Burt restocking Paulanne's Pantry.

also received generous support from the Cooper Foundation, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Foundation, H&B Packing, and the MCC Medical Assistant Student Association (MASA).

Thanks to your generosity, MCC is helping every day: dozens of students have received emergency grants and many more are accessing Paulanne's Pantry each week.

The MCC Foundation worked closely with the MCC Financial Aid office this spring to equitably distribute private dollars alongside Federal CARES Act funding. We continue to stand ready to help with situations that CARES funding did not cover.

# A NOTE FROM A Grateful Student

Dear MCC Foundation:

I wanted to take the time to thank you and the school formally for the emergency grant that my husband and I have received. This has helped tremendously with food and bills that needed to be caught up on and has relieved a big stress off of our shoulders so we could finish out the semester strong. This has been such a blessing and I can't express enough how blessed we are to have received this. We are expecting twins at the end of September and I will still be attending school in the fall. Receiving this grant has also relieved us feeling secure for the next month knowing we can afford the items we need.

Thank you so much again, K. & R. E.

In the months since we first invited you to "Lend a Hand" to help MCC students weather the COVID storm, it has become clear that this will not be a temporary situation, and the MCC Foundation will remain in need of emergency aid funding for some time to come. If you would like to help, please visit the Foundation's website at www.mclennan.edu/foundation and click on "Make a Gift." As you encounter students who are struggling, please put them in touch with MCC's Success Coaches (<u>success@mclennan.edu</u>) who will help them access a variety of community resources.

No one needs to do this alone, and the MCC Foundation thanks you for being our incredible partners in serving students working toward a brighter future.



# Do Foundation Scholarships Make a Difference?

by Kim Patterson, MS, APR, MCC Foundation Executive Director

They most certainly do! A recent analysis by the McLennan Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness revealed that students at MCC who received a Foundation

scholarship during the Spring 2020 semester were 17.3 percent more likely to be successful, and 8.8 percent less likely to withdraw from college compared to the regular MCC student (Knutson and Wichman, 2020).

During Spring 2019, the rate was even higher: scholarship recipients were 19 percent more likely to be successful!

Some might assume that since scholarships often go to high-achieving students, it is logical they would perform better. Not entirely true! While MCC Foundation scholarship recipients are required to have at least a 2.5 GPA, many Foundation awards are based on financial need or special criteria and not on merit alone. During the Fall 2019 semester, 48 percent of MCC students received some scholarship support.

What does make a difference in success, studies show, is that removing the financial stress of attending college has a quantifiable effect on a student's ability to persist and graduate (Millea, Wills, Elder, and Molina, 2018). In Fall 2019, 98 percent of students who responded to the college's satisfaction survey worked either full or part time, and some have family obligations that put even the most committed student to the test. Many Foundation scholarships award \$1000 a year, which covers about a guarter of the \$3,750 annual cost of tuition and fees. Other financial aid helps, but students often pay out of pocket to make up the difference and buy textbooks.

Another interesting statistic revealed in the study is that students who access the McKown Emergency Grant or Paulanne's Pantry also benefit tremendously from Foundation-funded help. Students who received emergency grants were 5.7% more likely to be successful, and Paulanne's Pantry clients were 6.2% more likely to be successful than a regular MCC student (Knutson and Wichman, 2020). Even among a population that is experiencing significant stress, Foundation-funded support makes a real difference in college persistence.

In these uncertain times, donors have every right to expect results from the charitable support they provide McLennan Community College. This data proves that each contribution you make--whether to a scholarship, the emergency fund, food

pantry, or fundraiser-- plays an important role in making sure students have the best chance for success in college and in life. Thank you for making an important difference!



With joy,

References:

milattera

KNUTSON, J., & WICHMAN, L. (2020). Foundation Success Report. MILLEA, M., WILLS, R., ELDER, A., & MOLINA, D. (2018). What Matters in College Student Success? Determinants of College Retention and Graduation Rates. Education, 138(4), 309-322.

# NISOD HONOREES EXEMPLIFY MCC EXCELLENCE

McLennan Community College announced five honorees for the annual National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Awards, which recognize commitment to high performance and extraordinary service in higher education. The MCC Foundation is proud to fund faculty and staff professional development at the college, including providing these recognition opportunities. The 2020-2021 McLennan NISOD Award recipients include:

Adjunct Faculty: Edgar Sierra, Adjunct Instructor of Applied Voice in the Music Department

Arts, Science & Business: Nicholas Webb, English

Professional Staff: Laura Wichman, Director of Institutional Research Support Staff: Faith Glatter, Records Assistant in Continuing Education

Workforce, Public Service and Health Professions: Lesley Plemons, Health Information Technology

On behalf of the MCC Foundation board and staff, congratulations to these deserving honorees. Thank you for your hard work and investment in the lives of McLennan students!



### **Edgar Sierra**

Adjunct Instructor of Applied Voice in Music Department

A note from his nominator:

Edgar has done so much to truly make himself a part of the Music Department. He is always willing to take on new duties, support colleagues and students, and assist whenever and wherever he is needed. He has a great understanding of the McLennan music student because he is an alum.

### Nicholas Webb Professor of English

#### A note from his nominator:

In addition to teaching his classes, Nick has also worked and completed an online textbook for his class. With the College's push to open educational resources and cheaper options for quality textbooks, this shows dedication to our students because People, Excellence, and Inclusiveness matter to Nick and to MCC.



# NISOD HONOREES EXEMPLIFY MCC EXCELLENCE

Continued



### **Faith Glatter Records Assistant in Continuing Education**

#### A note from her nominator:

Faith is a great co-worker and a tremendous asset to our team here in the Continuing Education/Corporate Training Dept. Her experience and skills sets are very valuable. Not only is she talented at her job, she is a wonderful person to have around. No matter what the circumstance, she is always joyful, attentive, and goes the extra mile for our students and our team.

### Laura Wichman Director of Institutional Research

#### A note from her nominators:

Laura has proven time and time again that she understands MCC, and she cares deeply for the people here."

Laura is always willing and able to assist me kindly with questions or help. She is really fantastic at her job and very helpful in all ways.



### **Lesley Plemons** Health Information Technology Program Director

#### A note from her nominator:

Lesley is an excellent colleague and a consummate professional. She works tirelessly to support her students and improve her program, and she does all of it with a smile and a positive attitude. When I face a challenge, I often ask myself, 'Well, what would Lesley do?

# Faculty and Staff Honored for Service to MCC



Each year, Mclennan Community College honors faculty and staff who have dedicated years of service to our beloved institution. This year, 74 employees were honored for their years of service to the College. Congratulations to all the honorees—we are grateful for your service! And, we are specially grateful to the nominees below for donating the value of their service awards to the MCC Foundation!

#### **5 Years of Service**

Amber Bracken
Sally Frazier
Michelle Morphis
Victor Porres
Armando Ramirez
Jessica Smith
Anita Zaricor

### 10 Years of Service

Ralph K. Brunson L. Dave Rachuig Cassie Rodriguez

### 15 Years of Service

Annette Bigham Brian Johnson

### 25 Years of Service

Vince Clark Rita Tejada

### 30 Years of Service

Laura Hays

## 40 Years of Service

James Kubacak

We would also like to recognize Foundation Executive Director Kim Patterson, who received her 25-year service award! Kim donates regularly to the Foundation, so she chose this beautiful wood rocking chair for her service award.

"I started at MCC in a part-time position, thinking it might last a year," Patterson said. "Instead, working here has become my life's passion. I am blessed by MCC, by my colleagues, and by how our college changes lives for the better!"



# MCC Foundation Scholarship Update



Scholarship recipients with MCC Foundation board member Dr. Sandra Goss at last year's Scholar, Donor, & Alumni Appreciation Luncheon. This year's luncheon will be hosted virtually on September 16. We will contact donors, alumni, and students with more information soon.

As we prepare to embark on a new academic year, thanks to the generosity of our donors and the diligence of the scholarship committee, Foundation scholarships currently total \$471,150 to 449 deserving students.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we will not host a Donor, Scholar, & Alumni Appreciation Luncheon this year. However, stay tuned for a virtual program that will still allow donors to "meet" and hear from their grateful students!

The scholarship competition for the 2021-2022 academic will open on October 1.

# A NOTE FROM A Grateful Student



#### Dear MCC Foundation:

I have been fortunate to be a recipient of a scholarship from the McLennan Community College Foundation on two occasions. I was able to navigate the scholarship process, and I was encouraged and supported throughout that process. When I was selected, I was greatly honored, and I found the generosity and support of the Foundation to be crucial to my success. Being a Nursing Major is a dream come true for me, and I could never be earning this degree without the MCC Foundation on my

I will not forget this kindness, and I hope to be a part of supporting others through MCC someday.

Nancy Spigener



I am both surprised and honored to receive the Jeffress Business and Nursing Scholarship. Now when I am low and tired I will have a name to put to the voice that is cheering me on. I will hear Victor say, "if I can work as a librarian and save over a million dollars, you can get this degree." When I am doubting myself I will hear Iris say, "come on Patty, if I can work hard all my ninety plus years to give you this leg up in the game you can finish what you started". Now I have people behind me. I have people that have come before me and know how to live frugal lives and save money by living modestly. I too shall be modest in their honor. I will adopt their ways and will hold them in the highest esteem, because now they are my people. They have my back and I have theirs to represent.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to continue my education. I will not take this honor for granted. And I will always remember the kind gift bestowed unto me in my time of need. If I can be of service for the cause please don't hesitate to call on me. 99

## P.C. JEFFRESS BUSINESS AND NURSING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

# Brenda Bradley Memorial Scholarship Honors Life of an Extraordinary Teacher



The McLennan family was stunned when, in the spring of 2019, we received word that beloved English professor Brenda Bradley had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Always the picture of health, Brenda inspired all around her through her love of life, poetry, language, and music. In addition to teaching a full load of classes, Brenda was studying Swahili to enhance her family's mission work in Kenya.

For the nine months following her diagnosis, Brenda's husband Randall bravely shared their difficult journey through CaringBridge. Despite the advanced stage of her disease, Brenda delighted her colleagues and students by reading selections from her recently completed book, A Few More Minutes: A Collection of Poetry, at the Casa de Café literature event on Nov. 20.

Brenda passed away on January 1, 2020. Her colleagues in the McLennan English department, with the blessing of Brenda's family, established the Brenda Bradley Memorial Scholarship in her honor. Fittingly, the scholarship will provide funds to an outstanding student studying English and English Literature at McLennan. To contribute to this fund in Brenda's memory, please visit <a href="https://www.mclen-">https://www.mclen-</a> nan.edu/foundation and click on "Make a Gift."





# Community Partnerships

## Talitha Koum Institute Graduate of the Year



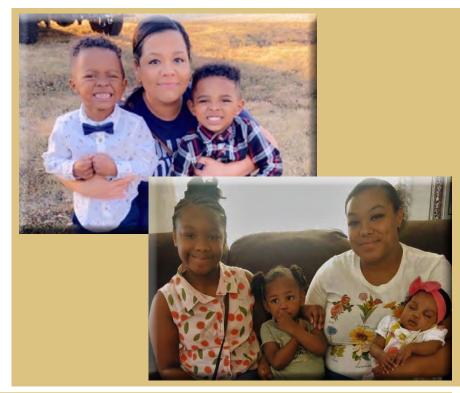


Jamaria Diserens had a difficult childhood; she had absent parents and had to help raise her siblings, she stole food in order to feed her siblings and herself, and she endured abuse at a young age. Talitha Koum became a sanctuary for Jamaria, where she met Kelli Diserens, her mentor. Their relationship grew, and Kelli and her family eventually adopted Jamaria and her sister. This spring, Jamaria became the first in her biological family to graduate from high school. She has enrolled at MCC to pursue a nursing degree, has been awarded the MCC Foundation's Ken and Alice Starr Endowed Scholarship, and will participate in the Julia Scholars program. We are looking forward to seeing Jamaria on campus (or online)!

# Women United Announces 2020 Scholarship Recipients

# - UNITED WAY---**WOMEN UNITED**°

In 2019, the MCC Foundation and Women United, an affinity group of the United Way of Waco-McLennan County, formed a partnership to support scholarships for women graduating from the MCC Adult Basic Education program. The generous scholarships fund tuition, books, uniform purchases, childcare, and emergency needs. The recipients of the 2020 Women United Scholarships are Ashley May and Olivia Gronado, both of whom are pursuing nursing degrees at MCC. Congratulations, ladies; we are very proud of you both!



# Hear

# Dates to Remember

Please mark your calendars now for the following 2020-2021 arts events! This year's performances will feature social distancing and live streaming for online enjoyment. Watch your mail in early September for your 2021-2021 Hearts in the Arts membership packet!

> McLennan Theatre & Opera Season:

October 1 - 4, 2020

Tristan and Isolde

November 19 - 22, 2020

Puffs

February 25 - 27, 2021

Clue. the Musical

February 25, 2021

MCC Foundation Gala

### Opera Production, Date TBA

The Old Maid and the Thief

April 22 - 25, 2021

The Merry Wives of Windsor

# 100% Licensure Pass Rates for 2018-2019 Graduates!



The McLennan Community College Office of Institutional Research submitted the 2018-2019 pass rates of graduates who tested toward their licensure and certification exams for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Ten programs at McLennan Community College reported 100% pass rates! Congratulations to these wonderful programs!

#### The programs with a 100% pass rate include:

- Certified Medical Assistant\*
- Cosmetology\*
- Medical Lab Technician
- Law Enforcement Academy\*
- Licensed Vocational Nursing\*
- Long-Term Care Administration\*
- Occupational Therapist Assistant\*
- Paramedicine\*
- Physical Therapist Assistant\*
- Real Estate
- Respiratory Care Technology



\*100% for 2+ consecutive years

McLennan Community College offers a variety of career-focused education programs that train students for jobs that are in demand in Central Texas. For more information visit our website at www.mclennan.edu or call 254.299.8622.

# MCC Foundation Board Spotlight: Linda Hatchel



McLennan Community College Foundation Board Chair Linda Hatchel with husband John at the 2020 Hearts in the Arts Gala.

Linda Hatchel has been a proud member of the MCC family since 1987 when she began teaching in the English Department. While a member of faculty, she served on several committees including Faculty Council as Secretary and on the Library Advisory Committee as Chair. Linda says this about her time at MCC, "MCC is truly a family, and that closeness is evident in faculty, staff. and administration."

Linda joined the McLennan Community College Foundation Board in 2016 and currently serves as Board Chair. Linda's goal as Chair is to increase program growth, thus enabling the Foundation to serve even more students and to provide even more opportunities. Although the primary purpose of the Foundation is to provide scholarships, Linda knows the importance of extending aid to students who need financial help.

"Today, the Foundation is an amazing organization because of the dedicated staff and hardworking Board that focuses, always, on the students and how best to help each student through scholarships and other financial aid so that they can achieve thier educational goals," Linda says.

Linda also recognizes the importance of having MCC in our community: "MCC is truly a college for the community, offering something for everyone. Students are able to receive a quality education with degrees in so many areas. Upon the completion of an MCC degree, they can go into their career fields or they can continue at Texas Tech or Tarleton right here on MCC's campus. Additionally, MCC's Continuing Education Program offers fascinating courses and summer camps for children with everything from art to horseback riding. MCC is truly a college for the entire community."

In addition to serving on the Foundation Board, Linda also serves as the current president of the MCC Retirees Association and serves on the Waco Symphony Association Board of Directors, Waco Symphony Council, Creative Waco, Brazos Forum, Waco Mammoth Foundation Board, and Texas Association for Symphony Orchestras. Additionally, Former Governor Perry appointed Linda to serve on the Texas State Board of Tax Professional Examiners and the Texas Commission on the Arts Board.

Linda's family shares her love for education and volunteerism. Her daughter Barbara is pursuing a degree from Texas Tech. Her husband John is a retired City Manager and currently serves as the Board Chair for the Texas State Technical College System Board of Regents. Linda says, "As we are both involved with two wonderful institutions of higher education, we say we are an equal opportunity family. On one side of our coffee table is the 50th anniversary history of TSTC and on the other end is "Bricks and Mortarboards: A 50th Year Retrospective on MCC."

Linda enjoys playing the flute in her spare time. She served as the Principal Flautist for the Abilene Philharmonic for 13 years. While in Abilene, she was the flute instructor at McMurry College and at Abilence Christian University. She also helped found the Plainview Arts Council and the Plainview Symphony Orchestra.

Thank you, Linda, for your service to the MCC Foundation, our students, and our community!

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: FR. KYLE NESRSTA



McLennan Community College Alumnus Kyle Nesrsta attended MCC from 2006-2008. MCC Music Industry Career Professor Jonathan Kutz vividly remembers Kyle as a student and says, "He is such a great guy and a great saxophone player".

Kyle graduated from MCC and transferred to the University of Texas at Arlington, where he obtained a bachelor's degree, and then went on St. Mary's Seminary. Father Kyle was recently ordained to the Holy Priesthood of Jesus Christ for the Diocese of Austin at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

Fr. Kyle celebrated his ordination by having a meal at Leal's Mexican Restaurant alongside Eric Leal, his childhood friend. Eric and Fr. Kyle's friendship began in 1st grade and has continued throughout the years.

Fr. Kyle will serve as Parochial Vicor for St. Louis King of France Catholic Church in Austin. Congratulations to this Highlander alumnus who is making a difference!

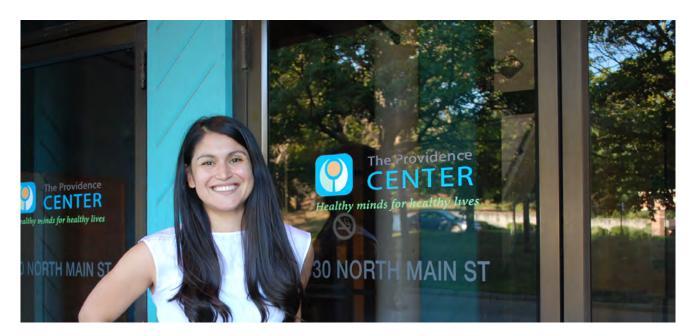


Fr. Kyle Nesrsta with childhood friend Eric Leal and family.



Fr. Kyle in his new role as Parochial Vicor for the St. Louis King of France Church.

# **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:** SANDRA VICTORINO



## MCC Alumna recognized in PBN's 40 under Forty

As a child, Sandra Victorino and her siblings worked alongside their migrant farm worker parents as they continuously moved to follow crop harvests. Although Sandra and her family faced many hardships, her parents always emphasized the importance of education. Because of this, Sandra began her college journey at MCC where she found affirmation and grew in confidence due to the support of professors, including the late Henry Apperson. She went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Spanish and a Master's Degree in Community Counseling from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, plus a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Mental Health Counseling from Rhode Island College.

Sandra was recently recognized in this year's Providence Business News' (PBN's) "40 under Forty." PBN honors 40 Rhode Island men and women under the age of 40 who are successful in their careers and involved in their communities. Sandra is Director of Acute Care Services at The Providence Center in Rhode Island, where she provides a safe haven for Latino women who are often the last to seek help because they fear cultural stigma and retaliation. Sandra is also the co-founder of the Latino Mental Health Network of Rhode Island, which assists individuals in obtaining a Spanish-speaking therapist. She is a board member of the Women's Fund of Rhode Island, an organization that helps advance gender equity through systematic change. Additionally, she is Vice President of the Recycle A Bike Board, a community bike shop with the mission of educating, empowering, and building communities by connecting people and bicycles.

Congratulations to Sandra for receiving this prestigious recognition and for making a difference in her community!

References:

PATTERSON, K (2016). Bricks and Mortarboards: A 50th Year Retrospective on McLennan Community College, 82-83.

# CLODDY WILLIAMS RETIREMENT



After 38 ½ years with McLennan Community College, Cloddy Williams has announced her retirement. Since 2008, Cloddy has served as Executive Secretary of Resource Development and through that role has supported the successful submission of hundreds of grant applications. She not only has provided support to the Director of Resource Development, but also to the Director of Marketing and Communications and Director of Administrative Services. She also worked in other MCC departments including Developmental Education, Math, Sciences & HPE, and Internal Auditing.

Cloddy has been an active member and leader in the McLennan Community College Office Personnel Association (MCCOPA) that brings together support staff from across the campus and to help better serve the college and commu-

nity. She is loved and respected across campus. Her institutional knowledge, dedication and kind spirit will be greatly missed. We wish Cloddy the best in her retirement!





# Gifts to the Foundation

March 25 - June 30, 2020

# In Honor & In Memory

In Honor of Pam Briggs' Years of Service with MCC

Daelynn Copeland Dr. Deborah Focarile

Jane Hilliard Emily Stottlemyre Paula Thomas

In Honor of Dr. Elaine Fagner

Geovana Bernal
Reynaldo De Avila
Brynn Freemyer
Taylor Gilson
Rosa Gonzalez
Lori Hedrick
Jennel Janek
Callie Mathis
Taylor Metcalf

In Honor of Shannon Hill Fred and Barbara Hills

In Honor of Estella Lopez's Birthday

Michael Gibbons Kim and Frank Patterson Mary Perez

In Honor of the MCC Foundation Team Missy Larson

In Honor of MCC Music Students
Bonnie and Richard Sneed

A gift to the Emergency Fund In Honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary
Drs. Stanley and Johnette McKown

In Honor of Donna Reed
Teresa Guerra

In Memory of Lu Billings
Dr. Richard Drum

In Memory of Evelyn Borshay

Alex and Chilan Shiu

In Memory of Vincent Glen Bryce

Lori Caceres
Fred and Barbara Hills

In Memory of Henry L. Campbell, Jr.

Erreka Campbell
Lloyd and Wanda Dugas
Joe and Laura Earl
Kafir Kabbara Sr.
Barbara Lee
Chandra Phillips
Isaiah Phillips
Ester Smith
John Wilborn

In Memory of Wayne Crews

Terri Barnes Lisa Lindloff

In Memory of David Dalton
Manuel and Dottie Edguist

In Memory of Jonathan Drouillard

Carroll Fadal Mary Perez

In Memory of Elwin Gene Gooch

Elaine and Scott Fagner and MCC Geology

In Memory of Joan Gregory
Sidney and Judy Ross

In Memory of Eloise Holder Fay and Nick Gutierrez

Fred and Barbara Hills

In Memory of Leonarda (Lola) (Orozco) Leija

Neyra Bazaldua Mickey and Bob Park

In Memory of Stephen Mike Lindloff

Clifford and Charlotte Lindloff
Julie and Scot Warren

In Memory of Dr. Dana Massey

Alex Shiu

In Memory of Lecil David Parker

Sandy and Mike Hinton

In Memory of Harry Reed

Fred and Barbara Hills

In Memory of 'River"

Elaine and Scott Fagner and MCC Geology

In Memory of Milly Rodriguez-Paniagua

James Paniagua

In Memory of Vivian Sanders Becky and Mark Parker

Alex and Chilan Shiu

In Memory of Tucker James Waller

**Preston Waller** 

In Memory of Brooks W. Wilson

Alex Shiu

In Memory of Garrett, John, and Julianna Wright

Alex Shiu

# 2020 MCC Foundation Board of Directors

The McLennan Community College Foundation is committed to enriching the college and the communities it serves by supporting its 9,000 students, 850 faculty and staff members, and by improving facilities on our 200-acre campus. The MCC Foundation Board of Trustees leads the Foundation in these endeavors.



Front row, left to right: Nell Hawkins, Dr. Johnette McKown (Secretary), Judge Vicki Menard, Linda Hatchel (Chair), Missy Larson, Glenda Strum, and Priscilla Stinnett

Middle row, left to right: Rick Brophy (Vice-Chair), Alfred Solano, Elisa Rainey, Mary Perez, Nashim Hamilton, and Ellie Morrison

Back row, left to right: Dr. Donald K. Lewis, Ted Teague, Charlie Moore, Judge Rex Davis, Trammell Kelly, Dr. Andrew Canham, and Kim Patterson (Executive Director)

Not Pictured: Judge Vikram Deivanayagam, Bill Dietz, Jr., Dr. Sandra Goss, Doug McDurham, Betsy Reeder, J. Clay Sawyer, M.D., and Geneva Watley

# Contact Us

### Kim Patterson, MS, APR

Executive Director kpatterson@mclennan.edu 254.299.8606

### Nevra Bazaldua, MBA

Engagement nbazaldua@mclennan.edu 254,299,8481

### **Shelley Cotten, MBA**

Coordinator, Operations & Scholarships scotten@mclennan.edu 254.299.8818

#### Rose DeLeon

Coordinator, Special Events & Alumni Executive Secretary, MCC Foundation rdeleon@mclennan.edu 254,299,8604

### Kathy McLendon, MHSA

Director, Resource Development kmclendon@mclennan.edu 254,299,8663

### **Cloddy Williams**

Executive Secretary, Resource Development cwilliams@mclennan.edu 254.299.8621



