

## PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

# APPRECIATED THE IMPACT OF WOMEN IN PHILANTHROPY

**April 30, 2024**

I think we can talk candidly among ourselves.

If you want to get something done, I've learned that you make the purpose clear, make a plan, and then enlist the support of women.

Anything is possible when women come together for a common cause.

I'm so proud that when we asked for your support to play a role in our mission to make Oakland an affordable, accessible university that is engaged in our communities and offering a world-class education you responded.

Our "Aspire. Advance. Achieve." succeeded because of you. The campaign raised \$151M from nearly 20,000 unique donors six months ahead of schedule. The funds raised from 19,871 unique donors, include \$73M to student success initiatives and scholarships... and \$35.5M for endowments.

Because we focus on being affordable and accessible, Oakland is ranked as the "best value for investment" among our peer institutions by the Wall Street Journal. Furthermore, Oakland ranked first among public universities in Michigan for enhancing students' social mobility, and second after UM-Ann Arbor in preparing students for careers.

Your tireless work in "Aspire. Advance. Achieve." contributed more than \$100,000 to the campaign. And your contributions are continuing to make a fundamental difference in the lives of the OU community.

The money raised by "Women In Philanthropy" went to initiatives that support and improve the mental health and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff.

- \$5,000 was awarded to Grizzlies Thrive
- \$10,000 was awarded to After Hours Crisis Counseling Service, a pilot program
- And \$9,000 was awarded to Mental Health Wellbeing

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