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# Helping Ourselves Means Education (HOME) letter

Eastern Washington University. Women's Center

Laurel Kearns

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# H.O.M.E.

*Helping Ourselves Means Education*



October 2, 1996

Dear Faculty and Staff:

With the beginning of a new academic year, I would like to introduce myself. I am the new coordinator of the Helping Ourselves Means Education (H.O.M.E.) program.

The H.O.M.E. Network began on campus in 1985. H.O.M.E. is a student support service designed to assist low-income students who have chosen higher education as a means to reach economic self-sufficiency. H.O.M.E. supports their efforts by offering confidential peer counseling, advocacy, resource referrals, a speakers program, a quarterly newsletter, the H.O.M.E. Revolving Loan Fund and yearly Child Care Scholarship awards.

The expense of childcare is one of the most formidable barriers to parents returning or continuing their education. Full-time child care for infants averages \$400 a month, while the cost for older children ranges from \$250 to \$300. The H.O.M.E. Child Care Scholarship fund helps promising students hurdle the obstacle of child care costs. Since 1987 H.O.M.E. has awarded twenty-nine scholarships to selected students.

The number of scholarships we are able to offer each year depends on the success of our fundraising efforts. Your generous contributions will allow us to continue to award scholarships for the 97-98 academic year. Support our low-income student parents by making a direct contribution to the H.O.M.E. Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a monthly contribution, you may request a payroll deduction by using the EWU Foundation Form under the heading "For other Restricted Fund" specifying H.O.M.E. Network Childcare Scholarship as the recipient. Checks for direct contributions can be made payable to *H.O.M.E. Childcare Scholarship Fund* in care of Laurel Kearns MS 166.

On behalf of the H.O.M.E. Program and the many EWU families we have the privilege to serve, thank you for your support.

Laurel Kearns  
H.O.M.E. Program Coordinator

H.O.M.E. Program, MS-166, EWU, 526 Fifth Street, Cheney, WA 99004-2431 (509) 359-4237  
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