



July 31, 2019

Dear Classified Staff,

I would like to invite you to join me in forming part of a support system for our Rio Hondo students by giving to the Rio Hondo Foundation. I would also like to say thank you to all of you who already support our student through the Rio Hondo College Foundation.

I am an alumni of Rio Hondo and know first-hand how much support is needed in order to succeed in college. I was a low-income, first-generation to college student that took two buses to Rio Hondo and walked up the hill to class. I can relate with many of our Rio Hondo students. Both my parents have a 3rd grade education and have had to work hard all their lives to support my brother and myself. I knew I could not expect any financial support from them and so I started working at the age of 14. After graduation I decided to come to Rio Hondo because my friends came here and I was able to become a student worker under Federal Work Study. Many staff and faculty helped me along the way. Some of who are still here at the college and are now my colleagues. I could not have done it without their support.

Now I work to help our low-income, first-generation to college students with their academic needs. It is a great satisfaction to be able to also help financially. So, I began to give to the Foundation last year.

This year I decided to increase my contribution because my money was being spent on things that were not fruitful or satisfying and I know our students can greatly benefit.

I hope you can also support the Foundation in all they do to benefit our students.

Cynthia Pallini

TRIO/**PASS** Program
Educational Advisor