



# THE **FAME** PROGRAM



Fostering Academics  
Mentoring Excellence  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

**School of Social Work**

A Community Program

# Mission

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FAME's mission is to increase the educational outcomes of students at Michigan State University who have experienced foster care, kinship care, or had similar experiences by promoting access to, and successful completion of, higher education programs. This mission will be accomplished through establishing campus and community partnerships, developing supportive networks, and providing individualized services to students.



The program offered something stable in my life—something consistent and valuable. In a way, the people I connected with became like family. It extended far beyond just being an academic/mentoring program—it became something so intrinsic to my social and collegiate life.

**BRANDON DRAIN**  
MSU FAME Alumnus,  
Class of 2021



FAME was beneficial in providing me the coaching, tools, and skills I needed to navigate college and life thereafter. FAME also provided me a community and safe space to be.

**MYA MCGEE**  
MSU FAME Alumna,  
Class of 2015



# Requirements & Eligibility

- Maintain enrollment at MSU
- MSU students who have experienced foster care, kinship care, homelessness, or were otherwise independent prior to age 18 are eligible to receive FAME services
- Maintain regular engagement with FAME Program staff

\*Some services may have additional requirements.

## You may also qualify for:

- Pell Grants
- Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Funds
- MET Fostering Futures Scholarship Funds

*Eligibility and amounts may vary.*



## Services & Support

### COACHING

We offer student led individualized support and goal setting.

### MENTORING

Individually matched mentors are available for monthly sessions with students to offer encouragement and advice.

### FINALS WEEK SURVIVAL KITS

We help reduce student stress by offering a break from studying with free food and personal care items.

### MONTHLY LIFE SKILLS EVENTS

Students can learn from different experts about securing housing, handling finances, navigating relationships and more.

### FAME CARE CLOSET

Students can schedule a visit to choose personal care items, like hair care and laundry detergent and much more when they are in a bind.

### FAME STUDENT ACTIVITY BOARD ADVISING

Students can join the Registered Student Organization (RSO) and engage in service projects, advocacy and student-led events.

### CAMPUS CHAMPION CONNECTION

MSU faculty and staff in departments knowledgeable about issues and needs of youth in foster care, provide additional support, assistance, and guidance to FAME students.

### NETWORKING AND SOCIAL EVENTS

We offer FAME-ily dinners, which are opportunities to socialize with other FAME students over meals, and recreational events like bowling, movies, ice skating and more.

# Become a mentor

The FAME mentoring program matches FAME students with a mentor from the community. Mentors serve as social, emotional and professional support for students as they navigate their academic, professional and personal goals on campus.



FAME was beneficial because it provided a safe outlet for me to communicate with my peers and be vulnerable at times. FAME opened their doors and made my peers and I feel welcomed from day one.

**MARIO MCLEAN**  
MSU FAME Alumnus,  
Class of 2015



## Donate Today

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The goal of the FAME General Gift Fund is to support service delivery, outreach and training for alumni of the foster care system and other out of home placements currently attending MSU.

To learn more about how to support the FAME program or make a gift, please contact:



**Rachel Schmidt**

rschmidt@msu.edu

## Contact Us

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Learn more about how to get involved and support the FAME program.



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College of Social Science  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



OUR SCIENCE **TRANSFORMS THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE**  
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