Mission:
No Student Homeless
The summer sunshine is long gone, traded in for artic temperatures, blustery snow days, & howling winds.

WSU junior, Sierra, 21, is just like you and me, excited for a long winters rest.

At 19, Sierra was a straight-A student finishing up her freshman year when suddenly, she lost everything. Her father and sole provider passed away tragically, leaving his daughter with nothing but sweet memories, an empty bank account, & a broken heart.

“I was on the verge of HOMELESSNESS. I had nowhere to turn. I couldn’t afford to live, let alone pay for college. I was afraid all of my hard work had been for nothing.”

Then came HOPE from the HIGH Program.

“HIGH changed my life. I don’t know where the other road may have taken me, and I’m glad I never have to find out.”

The Helping Individuals Go Higher Program helped lessen the load by lending a hand. It exists to connect low-income, down-and-out students like Sierra with the resources they need to continue their higher education.

“The HIGH Program is my proof you should never give up even when all seems lost.”

In two years’ time, Sierra will be a nurse. She is eager to pay it forward, showing her patients the same kindness and compassion shown to her in a place of pain and darkness.

Sierra never gave up, and because of YOU, we are certain she never will.
DETROIT is home for me. My roots are deeply embedded here. It is a beautiful city filled with vibrant energy and life, It is the perfect canvas for Wayne State University graduates to unleash the visions they have dreamt up during their college years.

Though I would love to solely address the roses and rainbows of Detroit, a troubling wave has overcome this city, leaving its most vulnerable drowning and out breath: student homelessness.

Hundreds of individuals have been plagued by this devastating situation in recent years and the numbers are growing rapidly.

The truth is no one chooses to be homeless, especially college students. No one wants to be out of work, out of shelter, out of choices...but the reality is that so many are.

Just like you and me, they have feelings, goals, and a future ahead of them. These are people working hard to jump up from the poverty line and live a normal life free of worry, pain, and fear.

Homelessness is selfish & greedy. It holds us back, clips our wings, tarnishes our spirit and shatters our world.

The HIGH program strives to lift up students who need it the most in the fight against homelessness, providing them with the basic necessities and comforts they deserve.

We give homes, hot food, tuition relief and a family of supporters that ultimately makes them feel right at home.

The thing I love most about the HIGH Program is that we go out of our way to ensure victory. Together we help to create a bright future for our students.

The HIGH Program takes on the responsibility of helping where help is needed the most.

Detroit has a great story, a proud past, and an inspiring future that will be driven by the heart, soul and determination of its people.

Regina Ann Campbell

Regina Ann Campbell is on the Board of Directors for HIGH & managing director of TechTown. She values social justice, educating youth & helping those in need in urban cities.
I am homeless.

Just writing these words makes me feel empty, but words are nothing compared to how I felt. I never thought the day would come I had to sleep outside, my bank account would read 97 cents, I would be on my 3rd day without food or worse, my hope and outlook on life would be completely on E.

At 23, I wanted to be just like everyone else wants to be: successful. From as far back as I can remember, I dreamt of the day I would graduate college, marry, and have children.

But life is hard, and it got harder.

I wasn’t given the opportunity most people get, even early on. I tried hard to attend class and get good grades in college, but that was hard living in a rough neighborhood, without a car, and working overtime just to feed my little sisters.

It wasn’t enough, never enough.

I would argue graduating means more to me that than to most people. It would mean that I truly came from rock bottom, up. It means I survived. I made it. I can finally be somebody in a world that makes me feel like I’m a nobody. Out of desperation, I contacted the HIGH Program this past April. They gave me the opportunity to tell my story, a story no one else heard or even bothered to ask about. I will never forget that phone call, the sweet voice on the other end that told me HIGH wanted to help. I was preparing to drop-out and give up on life, to throw in the towel and accept the street life like so many of my friends already had.

On April 23, 2016, the Helping Individuals Go Higher Program saved my life.

Thank you for everything.
You will never know just how much the hand you reached out to needed YOU.
How Your Gift HELPS

Housing Assistance $4,524 Annually
Campus Meal Plan $3,390 Annually
Transportation Expenses Such as fuel costs, car repairs, parking and public transit $2,954 Annually
Childcare $8,900 Annually
Books and Additional Course Materials $1,196 Annually
School Supplies $680 Annually
Technology $1,944 Annually

LEVEL OF SUPPORT

$5,000
For one student

$10,000
For one student + For two students

$25,000
For two students + For six students

$50,000
For four students + For ten students + For six students + For one student

$100,000
For ten students + For fifteen students + For ten students + For nine students + For two students + For six students

$250,000
For ten students + For fifteen students + For ten students + For nine students + For three students

WSU HIGH Program • wsuhighprogram@wayne.edu • (313) 577-9933