Since its inception, the Seita Scholars Program has been blessed with a generous volunteer and donor base.

We want to make sure that all of our volunteers and donors know how much their continued support means to the students and staff.

**Meal Donations**
Annually Western Michigan University closes for a period of three to four weeks during December and January. Many Seita Scholars stay on campus during this time, as one residence hall remains open to accommodate scholars and other students who need to remain on campus.

With the closing of the residence halls comes the closing of the dining halls, as WMU Dining Services is also on vacation during this period. This creates a gap for students staying on campus over the closure—where do they get food?

The Seita Scholars Program volunteers fill that gap for Seita Scholars by donating hot or frozen meals. Meals can be provided in a number of ways and drop-off dates and times are flexible to accommodate busy holiday schedules.

For more information, or to sign up to donate a meal, please contact Maria Newhouse via phone or email at (269) 387-8381 or maria.r.newhouse@wmich.edu

**Winter Coat and Boot Drive**
As the temperatures drop and the snow begins to fly, the Seita Scholars Program is looking to provide coats and boots to assist students through the winter months.

Not having appropriate winter attire can impact a student’s ability to thrive on campus by compromising their health, and decreasing their likelihood of going to class in very cold weather.

Because Seita Scholars do not come in a standard size, the Seita Scholars Program staff will be taking students shopping to pick out their own coats and boots on November 23 and December 4. In order to make these shopping trips possible, we need your help!

Donations to cover full or partial cost of a coat and pair of boots are currently being accepted; estimates suggest that a pair of boots and a coat will each cost $50-75. For additional information or questions, please contact Maria Newhouse.

**Donations**
Tax-deductible donations can be made using your credit card online or by making a check payable to the WMU Foundation. To ensure that the money is allocated for the Seita Scholars Program, enter “Seita Scholars Emergency Fund” in the memo line and mail to:

**WMU Foundation**
Western Michigan University
1903 W Michigan Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403

If you are interested in planned giving, contact the Development and Alumni Relations office at (269) 387-8700.
This has been a great year for the career mentor service at the Seita Scholars Program! We currently have nearly fifty actively matched mentors and Seita Scholars!

To support these matches, the Seita Scholars Program plans to host two additional events for career mentors and students to connect in the spring semester.

Bowling at Pinz
The first of these events, which will be planned for a Sunday in February, will be a bowling event at Pinz bowling alley.

This event will be designed to connect unmatched mentors and Seita Scholars, as well as allow currently matched students and their mentors to connect.

Movies at the Alamo
The second of these events will be an afternoon at the movies at the Alamo Drafthouse in downtown Kalamazoo.

This event will be designed for mentors and Seita Scholars who are currently matched. It will also be a great opportunity for pairs who were matched at the past event to come together, and there will be time to sit and talk at the conclusion of the film.

Feedback Needed
In order to accommodate as many students and mentors as possible, mentors and Seita Scholars will receive a survey in December asking for feedback on dates and times that work best to host these events.

We ask that you please take a moment and provide feedback about your availability—these events are a great time and we want to ensure that you can attend!

As always, please feel free to reach out to Maria Newhouse for questions, ideas or concerns about the mentor program. Your feedback is always welcome!

### 2013-14 Annual Report Available

The in-kind and monetary support from volunteers and donors helps sustain the Seita Scholars Program. We would like to take a moment and offer all of our volunteers, mentors and donors a thank you for everything that you do to support our students during the holidays and throughout the year.

For a snapshot of all of the amazing accomplishments assisted by your support, we encourage you to browse through our 2013-14 annual report. The report, which covers the program’s activities from May 2013—April 2014, is available online by visiting our website at:

http://wmich.edu/fosteringsuccess/seita

Highlights from this year’s annual report include:

- **12 new Seita Scholars graduates, bringing the total number of graduates to nearly 40!**
- **Recognition by the Center for the Study of Social Policy Youth Thrive Exemplary Program.**
- **Stories and thoughts from current Seita Scholars about the impact of the program.**
- **Student updates and accomplishments**

We hope you enjoy reading about the great things happening at the Seita Scholars Program!

### Donor’s Corner

The Seita Scholars Program is currently in need of the following items to support Seita Scholars through the fall and spring semesters:

- **Hats, mittens and scarves**
- **Toilet paper**
- **Personal hygiene items**
- **Non-perishable snack items**

Please email seita-scholars@wmich.edu for additional information or to schedule time to drop-off items. Thank you so much for your continued support!
November 2014
November 23: Seita Scholars Winter Coat and Boot Drive (Shopping Day 1)
November 26: Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner
November 27: Thanksgiving Dinner at the Director’s House
November 26 (noon) - November 30: Thanksgiving Break

December 2014
December 1: Last day to apply for Spring commencement
December 4: Seita Scholars Winter Coat and Boot Drive (Shopping Day 2)
December 7: Finals Week Celebration*
December 8-December 12: Final Exam Week
December 12 (12-2pm): Seita Scholars Graduation Celebration*
December 13: Commencement*
December 16: Final grades posted
December 19: Seita Scholars White Elephant Gift Exchange event
December 22: Third Annual Chicago Trip
December 24: Christmas Eve Brunch
December 25: Christmas Holiday (WMU Closed)
December 26-December 31: WMU Winter Closure (WMU closed)

January 2015
January 1: New Years Day Holiday (WMU Closed)
January 2: WMU Closed
January 12(8am): Classes begin
January 16: Last day to drop/add classes
January 19: MLK Day (no classes)

February 2015
TBD: Mentor Bowling Event (Pinz)*
February 15: First work grades due

March 2015
TBD: Mentor Movie Day (Alamo Drafthouse)*
March 6: Spirit Day (no classes)
March 9—13: Spring Break (no classes)
March 15: Midterm grades due
March 23: Last day to withdraw from classes

April 2015
April 27—May 1: Final Exam Week

May 2015
May 2: Commencement*
May 25: Memorial Day Holiday (WMU Closed)

*Indicate events mentors are encouraged to attend!