

# Investing in Lasting Social Change

SAFEGUARDING ACCESS TO A HELLER EDUCATION



## Enduring Impact

For over 60 years, the Heller School for Social Policy and Management has redefined the field of social justice and provided leadership to promote learning in its service.

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**A Heller degree equips graduates to pursue prominent careers devoted to inspiring inclusive and equitable social progress for marginalized populations.**

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Heller students study and collaborate with renowned faculty to become outstanding leaders. By improving global health, promoting peacebuilding or reducing poverty and inequality, Heller graduates share a calling to close disparity gaps that permeate societies in the U.S. and around the world.

# Brandeis

THE HELLER SCHOOL  
FOR SOCIAL POLICY  
AND MANAGEMENT

**Heller fellowship support prepares highly-skilled graduates to deploy to the frontlines of humanity's most pressing challenges. Graduates working around the globe emerge as catalysts, creating more just societies through the exponential impact of their lifetime's work.**

## Heller Fellowships Are Vital, Now More Than Ever

Your generous gift in support of Heller fellowships enables the most promising social policy leaders of today and tomorrow to access Heller's prestigious degree programs, regardless of their background or financial circumstances.



Fellowships are the primary tool to attract and retain the robust and diverse student body that is a signature strength of the Heller community. Our top priority is making sure a Heller degree is accessible and affordable for our extraordinary students, especially in these economically uncertain times.

Never have fellowship gifts been more essential in helping Heller students to create sustainable positive change at all levels of society. As students across the economic spectrum reassess their ability to afford a graduate education, the need for fellowship support is greater than ever.

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*"Heller students will make a difference for humanity.  
An investment in the future of these exceptional  
individuals is an investment in the future of our world."*

ELLEN HASSENFELD BLOCK, FELLOWSHIP DONOR

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## By the Numbers



Requests for financial support have increased by **50%** since the COVID-19 pandemic began



The average financial aid package covers **60%** of tuition



**100%** of Heller students receive some form of financial assistance



An estimated **70%** of students hold one or more jobs to make ends meet while studying at Heller

*"Student fellowships are critical. They enable Heller students to gain the ability to go out into the world and undertake the kind of social justice work that drew them to Heller—then take it to a higher level."*

DEAN DAVID WEIL



(LEFT TO RIGHT) ANA SAZONOV, MA HORNSTEIN/MBA'21 (ISRAEL)  
SYRGA KANATBEK KYZY, MA SID/MS GHM'21 (KYRGYZSTAN)  
BOLA LAMIDI, MA SID/MBA '21 (NIGERIA)



## Impact in the Field



**Elinor Gollay MSW'71, PhD'77**  
and **Roba Bulga Jilo MA/MBA'19**

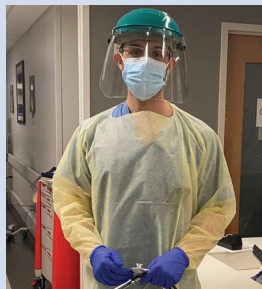
illustrate the power of donor-student partnerships.

At Heller, Roba learned to amplify his advocacy work on behalf of marginalized people. He led a team of students to victory in start-up competitions on his path to found Nomad Dairy, a wholesale camel milk company that partners with pastoralist cooperatives to preserve indigenous rights in his native Ethiopia.

Elinor is committed to giving indigenous leaders like Roba the opportunity to find solutions to their country's own challenges. "My support goes far beyond one student—it will reach and change the lives of thousands."



**66** countries were represented  
in our student body in 2019



**Dr. Ihsan Kaadan, MA SID '16**

Originally from Syria, Ihsan is now an internal medicine resident at Boston Medical Center working on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. "I'm using knowledge from my Heller epidemiology courses to understand what the Coronavirus statistics really mean."



**Emily Crandall, PhD student**

Emily conducts research to improve the lives of people with disabilities. Her studies focus on opioid use, sexual violence and service delivery outcomes. Emily's work is groundbreaking in that it incorporates elements that have not yet been explored in the disabilities literature.



**Bishar Jenkins, MPP'20**

"For me, graduate-level research is not simply to gain knowledge. It is a mission to actualize meaningful social justice solutions within black and queer communities. I am working to impact thousands nationwide."



**Jan Afza Sarwar, MA SID'21**

"I began in a clandestine school under the Taliban and have witnessed the human toll of living in a failed state. At Heller, I am learning the practical skills I'll need to help rebuild my country. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity would never have been possible without financial assistance."



**Ekow (Nana) Tawaiah Damoah-Ampia, MA SID'20**

"I'm working to reduce maternal mortality in Ghana by improving access to emergency medical transportation with 'motorcycle ambulances'. At Heller, I learned how to lead the process of systems transformation. None of this would have been possible without my fellowship—for which I am deeply grateful."

## Why We Give

*"I support Heller because of its global impact on issues that are important to me such as population growth, preservation of natural resources and global warming. Heller is training inspired, gifted people who are working to uplift the lives of those less fortunate, while addressing global issues that affect us all."*

MOSES FELDMAN, '62, FELDMAN FOUNDATION ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

*"I am deeply committed to the notion of evidence-based public policy that promotes social justice. Society needs a cadre of trained public policy leaders, educators and researchers on whom decision makers can depend. As a Heller alum of 45 years, now is my time to pay it forward."*

GERBEN DEJONG, PHD'81, JAN AND GERBEN DEJONG ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP



HELLER STUDENTS FROM NIGERIA (LEFT TO RIGHT)

BLESSED OVIE, MS GHPM'20

AFOMA MKPULUMÀ, MA SID'21

HUSSAIN ZANDAM, PHD, LURIE INSTITUTE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

ESTHER DANIEL, MA COEX/MA SID'20

BOLA LAMIDI, MA SID/MBA '21

**Brandeis**  
UNIVERSITY



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