THE PARENTS COUNCIL supports Swarthmore’s mission to prepare students for full, balanced lives as individuals and as socially responsible citizens through rigorous intellectual study supplemented by athletic, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities. It provides the administration with timely and insightful feedback from the parent’s point of view; serves as a resource for Swarthmore families; and promotes meaningful connection with the College.
STRUCTURE

President Valerie Smith invites prospective members to join the Council based on their demonstrated commitment to Swarthmore through philanthropic leadership (annual support of $5,000 or more) and active engagement in the life of the College. Council members are encouraged to serve while their child is enrolled at Swarthmore. A chair or co-chairs lead the Council with support from a College Advancement staff member.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Demonstrate philanthropic leadership by making an annual contribution of $5,000 or more. All gifts support the Changing Lives, Changing the World campaign.
- Welcome new Swarthmore families with personal phone calls or at regional Send-Off events.
- Attend at least one of two Council meetings held on campus annually— in the fall, during Garnet Homecoming and Family Weekend, and in the spring, usually in April.

BENEFITS

- Invitations to special events with the president, Board of Managers, and other College leaders throughout the year.
- Direct access to the Council’s staff liaison at the College.
- Regular and advance notification of select announcements and communications from campus.
- Membership in The 1864 Society of The Swarthmore Fund.
- Opportunities to get to know other Swarthmore families.
PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

Swarthmore’s $450 million campaign celebrates the transformative power of a Swarthmore education. Your gift will help us connect disciplines, open doors, advance the common good, and reimagine our campus.

THE 1864 SOCIETY

Parents Council members are also members of The 1864 Society, the group that honors leadership donors to the College through The Swarthmore Fund. All Swarthmore Fund gifts support the campaign.

COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Dan Holeman and Nancy Siegel, co-chairs
parents of Nathan Holeman ’18
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Ali Craig, staff liaison
Senior Associate Director, Volunteers
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ALL SWARTHMORE FAMILIES ARE DIFFERENT, but they share certain key experiences—from Move-In Day tears to Commencement cheers. Your family’s philanthropic relationship with Swarthmore College can grow in a variety of ways—here’s one illustration.

**fig 1. Start Here**

Make a gift of $5,000 or more to The Swarthmore Fund.

**fig 2. Get Involved**

Offer feedback and support as a Parents Council member.

**fig 3. Support**

Consider how campaign initiatives or special projects overlap with your student’s experiences and interests. Can you increase your giving in support of one of these priorities?

**fig 4. Encourage**

Ask your student to make a gift of their own, perhaps in honor of a professor or staff member who’s been important to them.

**fig 5. Legacy**

As your student prepares for life post-graduation, consider the ways your family can leave a legacy: a campaign commitment, planned giving opportunities, and increased Swarthmore Fund support.

**fig 6. Forever Swatties**

Even after your student graduates, your family is still a part of the Swarthmore community. Stay involved by continuing to support The Swarthmore Fund.