

The Jim and Sharen Bransome Endowed Fund was established to aid students who qualify for the CMU Promise, those majoring or training for job-ready positions in the area, and to the extent possible, also focus on Hispanics, single parents, and those upgrading skills for added professional designations and pay.

Jim and Sharen Branscome strongly support adults who are seeking to escape dead-end jobs and those who are progressing to higher level credentials and pay. They are former longtime residents of Montrose, known for their commitment to rural education and philanthropy.

They met and married when both were working at the Appalachian Regional Commission in 1970. Sharen worked on recruiting health professionals to the region, and Jim developed the agency's youth programs. Jim retired as a Managing Director of Standard & Poor's Investment Advisory Services in NYC. Sharen retired from UPS management where she worked on its international expansion.