Congratulations again on your selection for the Class of 2017! Current financial challenges at Michigan State University and facing MPLP’s donors have forced the program to reconsider whether it could continue its unique operational structure among the field of political and community leadership training programs across Michigan and the country. There are few programs in the U.S. that offer such a high caliber of political leadership training. MPLP was the only program not to charge any fees for its offering.

By instituting a $1,000 administrative fee among its participants, MPLP will be among the lowest (if not the absolute lowest) cost structures to its participants for such programs across the country. We are committed to the Class of 2015 and insuring that each selected Fellow is able to identify the resources to participate in the program. The scholarship program is designed to fulfill on that commitment.

As you know, the suggested structure for paying the administrative fee includes a $250 deposit upon acceptance in the program with final payment being due by July 31, 2017. Participants who are unable to meet these financial obligations are able to request scholarship assistance. A Scholarship Application should address the following questions:

1. Restate the Fellow’s interest in MPLP and what s/he hopes to achieve out of the program.

2. Describe, in detail, all of the Fellows’ efforts to raise support for the administrative fee from:
   a. The Fellow’s candidate committee or political action committee (if either exist);
   b. The Fellow’s employer;
   c. The Fellow’s family members;
   d. Local political organizations and/or candidates;
   e. Potential political supporters of the Fellow’s future political career and endeavors; and
   f. Any other efforts or plans to seek to raise the funds.

3. Provide a short analysis of the financial constraints the Fellow faces, including income limitation and/or extraordinary expenses facing the Fellow.

Scholarship applications are due on Monday, January 9, 2017. Applications can request the full or partial amount of the administrative fee. Applications should be emailed to clearyl@msu.edu.

MPLP reserves the right to grant or deny full or partial scholarships to each participant. Scholarship determinations will be made based upon the availability of resources, the efforts made by individual scholarship applicants to raise the necessary funds, and the needs of each Fellow. Scholarship awards will be announced by January 16, 2017.