



Required Reading

Newsletter of the Children's Scholarship Fund

Volume IV, Issue 3

giving
parents
a **choice**
giving
children
a **chance**

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New School Year, New CSF Awards

The 2007-08 school year is off to a running start at CSF. Almost 29,000 children nationwide are using CSF scholarships to attend the private or parochial school of their family's choice. Scores of these children are entering private school for the first time.

In New York City, we are adding 4,000 new scholarships this fall. About 3,000 of these new awards are funded through the Cardinal's Scholarship Program, a partnership with Children's Scholarship Fund, the Inner-City Scholarship Fund, the Endowment for Inner-City Education, the Patrons Program, and the Archdiocese of New York. This May, investor Robert Wilson significantly increased the capacity of this partnership when he announced a major multi-year donation of \$22.5 million to pay for scholarships in the Catholic schools of the Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island.

Also in New York, CSF has awarded more than 1,000 new scholarships through the Bishop's Scholarship Program, a partnership with Futures in Education and the Diocese of Brooklyn for families wishing to send their children to Catholic schools in Brooklyn and Queens in New York.

And in Los Angeles, with generous support from our donors, we have just awarded 167 brand new scholarships for 2007-08.



The Ososami sisters, Ayokunnumi, Mogbekeleoluwa, Oluwafeyisitan, and Omoteleola, at St. Catherine of Sienna School in Queens, NY are just four of the four thousand NYC children using brand new scholarships for the 2007-08 school year.

It doesn't stop there. CSF partner programs are also offering new scholarships in Charlotte, Dallas, Dayton, Denver, Memphis, New Orleans, Omaha, Philadelphia, and San Francisco this fall.

As always, CSF families were awarded scholarships based on their household size, family income, and tuition at their chosen school. Each scholarship covers 25%, 50% or 75% of the tuition, so families always pay at least a portion of the full tuition amount, and most pay around \$1,300. When you consider that the average family income is just \$27,000, this makes quite a statement about the value parents place on being able to choose this education for their child. It is only through the generosity of our donors and partners that we can empower parents to choose a school they otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford. Thank you. ●

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Planned Giving: A Win-Win Situation

Making a donation through a planned gift is a great way to create a legacy of support for the Children's Scholarship Fund while providing for your own future. Your commitment to our work is your most important reason for a contribution. Once you have made that decision, it is only natural that you should consider the financial benefits of your gift. There can be several:

- Receive substantial tax benefits
- Receive a life income
- Reduce estate and probate costs
- Unlock appreciated investments
- Provide a way of satisfying your personal and financial goals

Bequest:

The simplest and most popular form of an estate gift is a bequest of cash, securities or property to CSF in your will. A bequest through your will can reduce the taxes on your estate. It is easy to create a codicil in your existing will or to name CSF in a new will.

Remainder Trust or Gift

It is possible to create an income stream for the rest of your life by making a substantial gift to CSF. By transferring money, securities or other property into a remainder trust or gift annuity,

you can receive income for life at an attractive rate that is fixed in advance and can never be reduced. You may also receive significant tax benefits. After your lifetime, your trust or annuity becomes the property of CSF. These options enable you to use some of your assets to benefit CSF while retaining an interest in those assets for yourself or your family.

Donation of IRA or Qualified Retirement Plan

A donation of money from these assets may offer the best opportunity for tax savings because in some cases they will otherwise be subject to double taxation- both income tax and estate taxes at the time of your death.

Life Insurance

You can name CSF the beneficiary or co-beneficiary of a policy. If the policy is set up properly, the premium payments may be tax-deductible.

If you would like to make a planned gift to Children's Scholarship Fund, please contact Erica Reiter at ereiter@sccsf.org or call her at (310) 268-9239. Of course, before you make a gift decision, you should consult your legal or financial advisor. ●

**THE CHILDREN'S
SCHOLARSHIP FUND AIMS TO
MAXIMIZE EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY AT ALL INCOME
LEVELS BY OFFERING
TUITION ASSISTANCE IN GRADES
K-8 FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.**

CSF Earns Four-Star Rating

This summer, Charity Navigator, a nonprofit organization that evaluates the financial health of charities, awarded Children's Scholarship Fund a four-star rating – the highest rating it offers.

According to their website, Charity Navigator's rating system analyzes financial statements looking at two areas of a charity's financial health – “how responsibly it functions day to day as well as how well positioned it is to sustain its programs over time. Each charity is then awarded an overall rating, ranging from zero to four stars.”

In a letter to CSF, Charity Navigator Trent Stamp said, “Less than a quarter of the charities we evaluate have received

our highest rating, indicating that Children's Scholarship Fund outperforms the majority of nonprofits in America with respect to fiscal responsibility. This ‘exceptional’ designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Children's Scholarship Fund from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.”

To look up CSF and other charities evaluated by Charity Navigator, go to www.charitynavigator.org. ●



CSF Around the Nation

Indiana Governor Attends Indianapolis Scholarship Dinner

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels welcomed more than 120 supporters at a September dinner for the Educational CHOICE Charitable Trust, CSF's partner program in Indianapolis. The event, underwritten by Chase Bank, raised more than \$120,000 in funds for scholarships.

Robert Enlow, Executive Director and COO of the Milton and Rose D. Friedman Foundation, an organization dedicated to promoting universal school choice, presented the keynote address for the evening. Another honored guest was Krystal Barthel, a former CHOICE recipient, who now teaches at an inner-city Catholic school.

The Educational CHOICE Charitable Trust, which serves more than 800 children, has provided scholarships for low-income Indianapolis families since 1991.



Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels with former scholarship recipient, Krystal Barthel, at the Indianapolis dinner.

CSF Philadelphia Celebrates New Scholarship Families

CSF Philadelphia awarded scholarships to 1,000 low-income children this year, and hosted an official announcement ceremony at Drexel University to welcome the new families and celebrate the program.

Constantine Papadakis, President of Drexel provided the opening remarks. And James E. Nevels, President and CEO of the Swarthmore Group and Chairman of the Philadelphia School Reform Commission, was presented with this year's "CSFP 2007 Citizen of the Year" award. Verizon Wireless was the recipient of "CSFP's Corporate Citizen of the Year." The Phillie Phanatic was on hand to present a variety of student awards for achievement, art and writing, as well as teacher awards.

Since its inception in 1998, CSF Philadelphia has provided more than 4,500 scholarships for local children to attend private schools.



One of the newest CSF Philadelphia families shows off their awards at the June announcement ceremony.

San Francisco Scholarships Pay Dividends

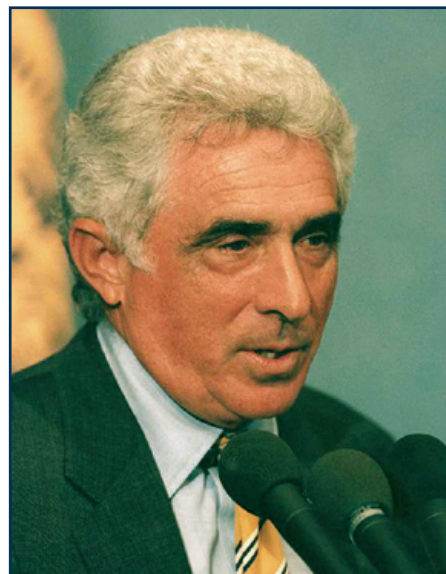
A new study completed by the BASIC Fund, our partner program in San Francisco, found that test scores of scholarship recipients improved up to 10 percentile points during the first year in private school, and that academic performance improves the longer the child maintains a scholarship. The San Francisco study also found that graduation rates for CSF recipients (regardless of whether they attended a public or private high school after 8th grade) were significantly higher than the graduation rates for the general population in San Francisco and Oakland. **The study estimates that 89-94% of CSF recipients graduated high school compared with only 73% in the San Francisco Unified School District and only 46% in the Oakland Unified School District.**

The Last Word:

“The reason I decided to focus my philanthropic efforts on education is that I believe it is the leverage point in addressing a whole host of challenges facing America – whether it’s crime, or race relations, or the income gap. So, I felt I could have the largest ripple effect on children’s individual lives – as well as on the lives of their communities – by opening the doors of educational opportunity to those currently trapped in failing schools.”

Ted Forstmann

Children's Scholarship Fund Chairman and CEO



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