Annual Report 2023-2024 Building a Better Future Together

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Empowering Children Through Educ

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# **A Letter from Our Executive Director**

Dear Friends of Kids' Scholarship Fund,

What a transformative year it has been for our organization! Your extraordinary generosity and commitment to educational opportunity made possible remarkable achievements.

### **Milestone Achievements**

In our 29th year, we proudly awarded nearly \$1 million in scholarships to 368 students in grades K through 8, expanding educational horizons for children across Connecticut. Your support has been the cornerstone of this significant impact.

### **Growth and Expansion**

We are excited to announce two major developments:

- A statewide launch, expanding from our initial five-city program to serve students across Connecticut
- Our new name: Kids' Scholarship Fund, reflecting our evolving mission and broader reach

#### **Unprecedented Demand**

The response to our scholarship program has been overwhelming. March saw the largest eligible applicant pool in our history, resulting in a waitlist of more than 90 qualified students. This speaks volumes about the critical need for educational support in our communities.

### **Donor Generosity**

Your contributions this year have been nothing short of remarkable. Donors have doubled their generosity compared to last year, enabling us to support more students and dream bigger about educational equity.

### **Looking Forward**

While we celebrate our achievements, we recognize the work ahead. Our waitlist represents hope and potential—90 students waiting for the opportunity to transform their educational journey and we hope to call on you as we approach our 30th Anniversary to serve more students than ever before.

With deepest gratitude and commitment,

NMJL

Nicole Talmadge, Executive Director



When children are empowered to reach their full potential, we start building a better future **together.** 

# **About Us**

We are an independent scholarship organization that invests in families who want the best for their children, who believe education offers the surest path to future success, and who are already making financial sacrifices to afford a private school education, but need a little help with the tuition.

# **Our Mission**

Founded in 1995 as the Children's Educational Opportunity Foundation of Connecticut, Kids' Scholarship Fund (KSF) empowers Connecticut children from families whose income is within the poverty threshold to reach their full potential by providing equal access to a high-quality, foundational K-8 education through need-based scholarships that enable families to choose schools that best meet the learning needs and abilities of their children.

# **Eligibility and Scholarship Awards**

Parents and guardians who are residents of Connecticut qualify if their income level is verified at or within 200% of the Federal Poverty Level for the size of their family. We encourage families to choose any accredited K-8 private, independent, or parochial school in Connecticut that will accept their student and work with KSF to apply our scholarship award of up to \$2,100 per year to the child's tuition account.

# **KSF by the Numbers**

**29+ Years** Of providing equal access to quality education

## \$22 Million

Scholarship dollars awarded since 1995

10,000+ Student scholarships awarded since 1995 40+

Private schools chosen by parents

# Their aspirations are our inspiration.

## Spotlight on The Quintero Family

"I like math and working on cars and other mechanical things. I plan on going to a technical high school next year, but I also want to go to college after that."

> -Jaiden, KSF scholar and eighth grade student

"The scholarships will help provide a better future for my children. They most likely will become professionals because of what we have invested in them... My kids are getting a great education and they are becoming better people in their community."

Walter Quintero,
KSF scholar parent

"What I like most about Corpus Christi School are the teachers and how they teach us. I also like that everyone is like a big family." — Zaniyah, KSE scholar

KSF scholar and fourth grade student "Every time I see my younger brother Jeremiah (a third grader), he is so joyful. He really enjoys participating in everything we do at school."

 Jaiden, KSF scholar and eighth grade student

# In 2023-2024, **\$723,375** helped **353** KSF Scholars attend **30** high-quality schools

# What does private school tuition cost?

On Average for 2023-2024

- —Tuition \$7,161
- -Financial Aid from School \$1,582
- —KSF Scholarship \$2,066
- -Family Contribution per Child \$3,513
- —Family Income \$42,035

# What type of private schools do KSF students attend?

In 2023-2024, parents chose

- -16 Roman Catholic Schools
- —7 Christian Schools
- -2 Jewish Schools
- -5 Nonsectarian Schools

# How many new students does KSF support each year?

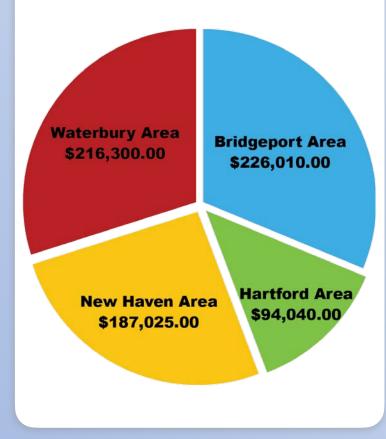
Of the 353 students receiving KSF scholarships in 2023-2024

- -241 were Returning/Renewal Scholars
- -12 were Siblings of KSF Scholars
- -100 were New 1st Time KSF Scholars

# Where do KSF students come from?

In 2023-2024, scholarships were awarded to

- -111 students in the Bridgeport area totaling \$226,010
- -46 students in the Hartford area totaling \$94,040
- -93 students in the New Haven area totaling \$187,025
- -103 students in the Waterbury area totaling \$216,300



# **Financial Statements**

Condensed Statement of Activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024

### Assets

Net Assets at the Beginning of Year \$12,347,688 Change in Net Assets from 2022-23 to 2023-24 \$566,636 Net Assets at End of Year \$12,914,324

### Revenue

Contributions and Grants \$145,127 Investment & Other Income \$1,230,663 Total Revenue \$1,375,790

### Expenses

Scholarship Program Expenses \$785,787 General and Administrative Expenses \$196,497 Total Expenses \$982,284

The above information, which was extracted from our audited financial statement, is available – along with our IRS 990 form – on KSF's website: https://www.ksfct.org/about-us/annual-reports-and-financial-statements





### "With the help of my

scholarship, I was able to attend a private school and receive the best education possible. My parents have many dreams for the future and they work very hard to provide for me and my sisters." – Sophia, a past KSF scholar who is now enrolled in high school "These scholarships make a tremendous difference to families within our school community, giving them the freedom to make the best possible choices for their children's education. We are deeply grateful." – Kelli Hammond, principal, Sacred Heart School in Groton, Connecticut



## **Our Generous Supporters**

Annual giving for 2023-2024 to Kids' Scholarship Fund encompasses all monetary gifts received during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Gifts include contributions to Annual Fund, Scholarship, Founder's Fellows, and Endowment. Thank you to all our supporters for your generosity.

### With Special Thanks

Mr. and Mrs. James and Kathleen Alber Dr. Lewis Andrews Mr. and Mrs. David and Missy Bohn Mr. and Mrs. Brian and June Boyd Mr. Robert Campagnuolo Dr. Mary Didiuk and Dr. Andrew Duffy Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jones Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Martella Mr. and Mrs. David Paddock Preferred Utilities Manufacturing Corporation Mr. Neil Putman Mr. and Mrs. Mark and Claudia Rousseau Ms. Suzanne Sliker The Talmadge Family **Trefz Family Foundation UBS Financial Services** Estate of Robert Waterman

### **Board of Directors**

Dr. Lewis M. Andrews, Founder, President, and Chair David G. Bohn, Vice-Chair Ashley Martella, Secretary James Alber, Treasurer Andrew Jones, Development Committee Chair Brian Y. Boyd, Board Member-at-Large

### Administration

Nicole Talmadge, Executive Director Hannah DeBruler, Program Manager

## **Development Committee**

Andrew Jones, Chair Lewis Andrews David Bohn Nicole Talmadge

# Kids' Scholarship Fund Empowering Children Through Education

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