



Annual Report 2024-2025
Hope, Opportunity, & Success:
Celebrating 30 Years!

A Letter from Our Executive Director

Dear Champions of Educational Opportunity,

Thank you for raising the bar and rising to the occasion as Kids' Scholarship Fund embarks on our 30th Anniversary year, poised for continued growth and expansion.

Imagine a Connecticut where every single child—regardless of zip code or family income—has access to the education that fits them best. A state where we've finally broken the cycle of generational poverty and closed the decades-long racial and economic achievement gap. This is the Connecticut you are creating as supporters of the state's only private K-8 scholarship granting organization.

Thanks to your extraordinary commitment to the 2025-2026 academic year, ***KSF awarded nearly \$1 million in scholarships to 414 students in grades K through 8—a remarkable increase from 368 students the previous year and the largest number of scholars in our history.*** A milestone achievement is our new, groundbreaking partnership with Saint Martin de Porres Academy in New Haven, where KSF now provides a scholarship to every single student, ensuring that this exceptional school's transformative education is accessible to all families who choose it. Each scholarship you funded represents a child whose educational trajectory you've forever changed.

When in January 2025 KSF was made aware that CTCEE was sunsetting their scholarship program leaving students in need of angel supporters, you stepped forward to ensure 53 additional students could continue their educational journeys without interruption. You didn't just provide funding—you provided hope and continuity when these families needed it most.

Right now, 132 qualified children ages 5-14 sit on our waitlist for the 2025-26 school year, and more than 600 qualified, needy children were turned away this year due to lack of funding. These aren't just statistics—these are kindergartners ready to discover their love of learning, middle schoolers on the cusp of high school preparation, and families who've placed their trust in the possibility of a better future.

You have the power to change this. Help us say yes to them now, before another year of potential is lost.

Your belief in our mission is contagious. The number of donors and gifts has increased an astounding 230% in the past two years, with fundraising up more than 30% this year alone as new generous friends join our mission. You're not just supporting an organization—you're joining a movement that's reshaping Connecticut's educational landscape.

Your gifts to KSF are not about a transaction. Your gifts transform. Every dollar you invest becomes part of your legacy—a testament to your belief that every child deserves the chance to reach their full potential. You are the heroes writing the next chapter of Connecticut's story, one scholarship at a time.

As we enter our fourth decade, we invite you to deepen your investment in this vision. Together, we can ensure that no qualified child is turned away, that every family has hope, and that Connecticut leads the nation in educational equity.

The future we're building depends on champions like you.

With profound gratitude and unwavering commitment,



Nicole Talmadge,
Executive Director



“My KSF scholarship will help me continue to work toward becoming an architect, landlord and interior designer, and maybe a professional basketball player. I will use the skills and lessons learned as a KSF Scholar to achieve my goals by studying very hard and making sure I succeed academically.”

—Ella, KSF Alumna



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

30+ Years

Of providing equal access to quality education

\$22 Million

Scholarship dollars awarded since 1995

10,000+

Student scholarships awarded since 1995

30-40

Private schools chosen by parents each year

We Believe in Their Bright Future...



"I give to Kids' Scholarship Fund because I believe deeply that educational opportunity opens doors, transforms lives, and creates a more just and hopeful society."

Lewis Andrews
Founder, President, and Chair



"I invest in Kid's Scholarship Fund because it empowers financially constrained families to choose and access what they feel is the best learning environment for their children during a critical stage of development. I believe the combination of educational choice, parental involvement, and motivated students who value the opportunity leads to positive outcomes for the students and for the broader community, as many are inspired to give back."

Ashley Martella
Interim Vice Chair



"I support Kids' Scholarship Fund because the best place to invest is in children and education—we're changing lives today to impact the future of CT. There's no greater return than knowing these scholarships are building the next generation of Connecticut's leaders, one child at a time."

Andy Jones
Development Committee Chair



"I support Kids' Scholarship Fund with both my time and money because it is a wonderful organization that gives financially disadvantaged children in Connecticut the opportunity to receive a quality education, better themselves, and uplift future generations of their families. Since KSF awards partial scholarships, families must contribute toward tuition and are invested in their children's education, which greatly increases the likelihood of meaningful, long-term success."

James Alber
Treasurer



"I give to Kids' Scholarship Fund because every child deserves the chance to attend the school that best meets their unique needs, and every parent should be financially empowered to make that choice."

Brian Y. Boyd
Interim Secretary



In 2024-2025, \$758,367 helped 368 KSF Scholars attend 29 high-quality schools

What does private school tuition cost?

On Average for 2024-2025

- Tuition \$8,717
- Financial Aid from School \$2,792
- KSF Scholarship \$2,069
- Family Contribution per Child \$3,856
- Family Income \$45,876

What type of private schools do KSF students attend?

In 2024-2025, parents chose

- 14 Roman Catholic Schools
- 7 Christian Schools
- 3 Jewish Schools
- 5 Nonsectarian Schools

How many new students does KSF support each year?

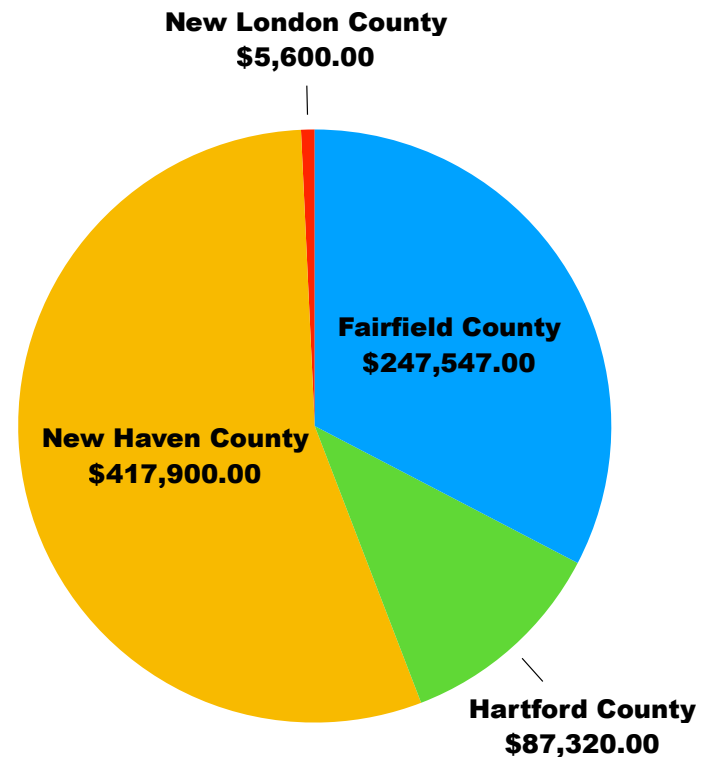
Of the 368 students receiving KSF scholarships in 2024-2025

- 267 were Returning/Renewal Scholars
- 21 were Siblings of KSF Scholars
- 80 were New 1st Time KSF Scholars

Where do KSF students come from?

In 2024-2025, scholarships were awarded to

- 200 students in New Haven County totaling \$417,900
- 119 students in Fairfield County totaling \$247,547
- 44 students in Hartford County totaling \$87,320
- 5 students in the New London County totaling \$5,600



2024-2025 KSF Leadership

Board of Directors

Dr. Lewis M. Andrews

David G. Bohn

Ashley Martella

James Alber

Andrew Jones

Brian Y. Boyd

Administration

Nicole Talmadge, Executive Director

Hannah DeBruler, Program Manager

Financial Statements

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

Assets

Net Assets at the Beginning of Year \$12,914,324

Change in Net Assets from 2023-24 to 2024-25 + \$503,065

Net Assets at End of Year \$13,417,389

Revenue

Contributions and Grants \$202,315

Investment & Other Income \$1,425,487

Total Revenue \$1,627,802

Expenses

Scholarship Program Expenditures \$785,931

General and Administrative Expenditures \$338,806

Total Expenditures \$1,124,737

*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>*



“Kids’ Scholarship Fund has made it possible for our sons Noah and Oliver to attend Northeastern Adventist Academy – Fairfield County Campus, where they are not only receiving an excellent education but also developing strong values and character. We are sincerely grateful to the donors whose generosity has given our family this life-changing opportunity.”

—Arlon de Souza-Filho and Rosane Desouza



Our Generous Supporters

Annual giving for 2024-2025 to Kids' Scholarship Fund encompasses all monetary gifts received during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Gifts include contributions to Annual Fund, Scholarship, Founder's Fellows, and Endowment. Thank you to all our supporters for your generosity.

With Special Thanks

James and Kathleen Alber
Lewis Andrews
Zachary Andrews
John Arrandale
David and Missy Bohn
Brian and June Boyd
Andrew Buzzi Jr.
Bob Campagnuolo and Michele Amendola
Karen Chapman
John Crawford
GDA Integrated Services
Sunil Garga
Give Lively
Mary Hally
Joseph LaMacchia
Thomas Lasersohn
Bernadette and Ted Linstrum
Ashley and Laura Martella
David Paddock
Preferred Utilities Manufacturing Corporation
Suzanne Sliker (Flying Leap Designs)
Matthew and Nicole Talmadge
Trefz Family Foundation
UBS Financial Services
Christopher Wardrop
Webster Bank Charitable Foundation



Granting Organizations



Children's Scholarship Fund



ESSEX SAVINGS BANK



GROTON UTILITIES



Hartford Foundation
FOR PUBLIC GIVING





Thank you, Hannah DeBruler, for your dedication to KSF as Program Manager over the past 2+ years. With the anticipated birth of her second, Hannah stepped down from her position at the end of the year to focus on her family. KSF is thrilled to welcome Shelly Walsh as our new Enrollment and Alumni Program Manager.



Kids' Scholarship Fund

Empowering Children Through Education

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**Scholarship Applications
and Alumni**
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