Celebrating 15 Years of Fresh Starts

Fifteen years ago, when the Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation (FSSF) awarded its first scholarship, little did we know what a difference we could make by providing financial support and mentoring to adult women in need who were returning to school. To date, we have awarded over $425,000 to 120 deserving women who are transforming their lives and creating new opportunities for themselves and their families by earning their degree.

We continue to be an all-volunteer organization that designates 97 cents of every dollar donated to scholarships. The goal of the FSSF is to help women in need improve opportunities for themselves AND their families by furthering their education. Here’s just one typical life story. Bonita Penn, who graduated this year with a Bachelor of Science in both Nursing and Psychology, is the epitome of a Fresh Start scholar. She has worked so hard to turn her life around. Today, Bonita is employed as a nurse at Christiana Care. I know she will be a wonderful nurse and very successful in her nursing career. She has shown determination and boundless energy in earning her degree and now has options in life — a chance to choose what’s best for her and her son. Here’s what Bonita says:

“No amount of words or gestures can express the joy and thanks in my heart for the role you have played in my life. It’s no secret that the last several years of my life have been a tough journey with trying to get through school and juggle the responsibilities of life. However, because of you (Fresh Start, family and friends) I was able to make it out on the other side.”

The picture of Bonita and her son, Edward, who graduated from Kindergarten on the same day says it all. It’s not just about helping one woman succeed, but the positive impact her success has on her children, family, friends and the community. Her words touched our hearts and filled us again with the passion to help even more women like her who are seeking a fresh start in life.

On behalf of the boards of Wilmington Women in Business and Fresh Start, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to you for sharing your time, talents and resources to make their dreams a reality!

Mary E. Maloney
President, Board of Directors
FSSF

Mission
The Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, is the charitable arm of Wilmington Women in Business, Inc. Our mission is to provide incentive to adult women who face (or have faced) personal and economic challenges and are seeking to improve opportunities for themselves and their families through education. We award annual scholarships based on need and provide mentoring support through WWB members. Candidates must be enrolled in a two or four year degree undergraduate program at an accredited Delaware college or university.

Information about the Fresh Start Scholarship and applications may be obtained by contacting us at fsscholar@comcast.net or on the web at www.wwb.org.
Scholars & Mentors Over the Years

“I felt that they truly cared about my success and believed in my achievement.”

“Most of all, I valued the trust and faith Fresh Start placed in me by investing in my future.”

“I loved meeting other scholars, as well as the successful women of WWB. It was very inspiring!”

“I landed my dream job.”

“My children now have a yard to play in.”
15 Years of Friends, Fun & Fundraising

10th Anniversary Awards

Captivating and entertaining Celebrity Panel

Chatting with the First Ladies

Enchanting music

Lively auctions: Dine Around Delaware, jewelry, gourmet food, theatre tickets, spa packages...

A delectable array of hors d’oeuvres and food stations

Exciting raffles: beach homes, sports packages, Smart Talk Series Tickets

Networking and laughter with friends and colleagues
Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation
2010-2011 Donors (JULY 1, 2010 - JUNE 30, 2011)

Grants
Founder $2,501-$5,000
Laffey-McHugh Foundation
Milton & Hatte Kutz Foundation
Supporter $101-$250
BTL Foundation

Annual Campaign
Sanjay Bhattacharjee
Mimi Boudart
& Don Callender
Barbara & Bill Buckley
Loretto & Major Haislon
Joyce Koria Hayes
Jan Jessup
Anne McIntosh
Judy Powell
Linda Ratchford
Eleanor Rigik
& Andrew Bushko
Barbara Roche
Jack Varsalona
Penny Vavalla
Carol Wagner

Friend up to $100
Phyllis & Norman Aerenson
Ambit Business Solutions
Kelley Andrews
Kathy Andrzejewski
Jennifer Bangley
Bernard & Helen Balick
Andrea & Richard Barros
Cheryl Carnes
Martha S. Carper
Jane & Michael Castle
Gail Chickensky
Roni Cohen
Corrective Chiropractic

Rosi Crosby
Judy Cryzwek
Maira Donoghue
Carolyn Doyle
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Nora Cannon Evans
Phyllis Feibus
Gemini Building Systems
Alexa L. Girardi
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Got Group?
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Sarah Harrison
Mary & Bob Hickok
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& Levit, PC
Rose Marie Holodak
Claudia Hughes
Judith Hughes
Julia Jones
Janis Julian
Marta Kessinger
Annabelle Kressman
Greg Leavelle
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Harold Lynch
Scott Mason
Master, Sillaw & Associates &
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Nani Mayer-Mihalski
Jill McKeown
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Matt & Emile Ninf
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Gloria Pondo
Patricia & Samuel Ponzo
Susan Riccardi
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Wendy Scott
& Sandra Tacone
Harold Shaffier
Kristen Shaw
Suzanne Shealy
Phyllis A. Sheppard
Leslie Stanford
Victoria Tashjian
Joyce Tavani
Joseph Van Sich
Jennifer Watson
Cynthia Watts
Linda Whitehead
Stan & Kim Wilcox
Jimmie P. Wilkie
Valerie Woodford
Young Conaway
Staggart & Taylor

Financial Statement
June 30, 2011

Income
Annual Campaign, net $36,826
Signature Event, net $19,261
Grants $8,250
Investment Income, net $24,731
Other $29
$89,097

Expenses
Program Services
(Scholarships/Mentoring) $54,209
General & Administrative $1,709
$55,918

Net Income $33,179
Beginning Net Assets $167,662
Ending Net Assets $200,841

Net Assets
Unrestricted (3%) $6,025
Board Designated for Scholarships (97%) $174,816
Total Net Assets $200,841

Advisory Board
Muriel E. Gilman
Sandy Hammond
Jan Jessup
Janis L. Julian
The Hon. Gregory F. Lavalle
Claire F. McElwee
Bonnie T. Meszaros
Darelle Riabov
Claiborne Smith
Rita C. Turnier
Jack P. Varsalona
Penny Vavalla
Kimberly Wipf

How You Can Help
Scholarships are funded by corporate and individual contributions to the scholarship program, fundraising events, grants and bequests to our scholarship endowment fund with The Delaware Community Foundation. You can help by sharing information about this scholarship program with others, encouraging candidates to apply, attending fundraising events and making contributions to the scholarship fund.

Checks should be made payable to the Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc., and sent to:
Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
Attention: Treasurer
P.O. Box 7784
Wilmington, DE 19803
All contributions are tax deductible.

In Memoriam
Brandy Norleen Hale
1982-2011
Fresh Start Scholar 2007-2010

Nancy Lynch Crane
1947 - 2011
Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation
Board of Directors 1999 – 2010

Muriel E. Gilman
1923 - 2011
Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation
Advisory Board 2002 – 2011