Mission Statement

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 to adult women based on need, academic record and potential for success. We provide mentoring support to our scholars through professional women in the community. Candidates must be enrolled in a two or four year undergraduate degree seeking program at an accredited Delaware college or university.

Positioned for many more Fresh Starts

In 1996, Mary Maloney, founder of the Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, saw a need and had a vision to provide scholarships for Delaware women in need returning to college.

Now, we proudly celebrate our 20th year of making a difference. These are just a few of our many accomplishments since inception:

- 186 scholarship recipients
- Over $830,000 awarded in scholarships
- Hundreds of dedicated volunteers and donors who have committed their time and treasure
- An engaged Board of Directors who is passionate about the success of our scholars and of our mission.

Going forward under the leadership of our new president, Sarah Kenney, we are well positioned for dynamic growth for the next decade and beyond. Thanks to all of you who have made this journey possible.

It has been an honor to lead Fresh Start over these past four years and to experience firsthand the impact our organization has on women who want, deserve, and are willing to do what it takes to get a fresh start. Our scholars are our inspiration and are a constant reminder of why we do what we do. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I confidently look forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary in 2021.

Warmest Regards,

Rita S. Wilkins, President, Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation

Since the beginning of my journey with Fresh Start, my mentor has always been there to give me support, encouragement and motivation. I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for selecting me as one of the recipients for your scholarship. Your contribution toward my education will eliminate my financial worries so that I can truly focus on my studies.

Ruthann S.– 2016-2017 Scholar

“Having given birth to Fresh Start, it was difficult to step down from the presidency after 17 years. But, four years ago, I cut the umbilical cord and handed over the lead role to Rita Wilkins. She eagerly stepped up to the plate, brought a fresh perspective and built a stronger organization. Now, we are taking the next step in the Fresh Start journey as we pass the baton to Sarah Kenney, who brings youthful enthusiasm and a desire to help Fresh Start grow. What a joy it is to work with these talented, caring women who are also passionate about helping deserving women transform their lives through education!” - Mary Maloney, Founder

“I’m humbled to serve this organization. I’m completely committed to women’s empowerment and – together with the incredible Fresh Start network of volunteers, donors and scholars – I know we will exponentially continue to improve women’s lives through the power of education. Thank you for your support!” - Sarah Kenney, President Elect
### 2016 – 2017 Fresh Start Scholars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
<th>College</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amanda B.</td>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Behavioral Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela B.</td>
<td>Smyrna</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Accounting/ Human Resources</td>
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<td>Kristin B.</td>
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<td>Behavioral Science</td>
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<td>Lori B.</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany C.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patti C.</td>
<td>Middletown</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Elementary Education</td>
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<td>Gerrrell E.</td>
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<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monet E.</td>
<td>New Castle</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vicki F.</td>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>Delaware State University</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<td>Taylor G.</td>
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<td>Human Services</td>
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<td>Stella H.</td>
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<td>Human Services</td>
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<td>April H.</td>
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<td>Middle School Mathematics Education</td>
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<td>Genesis J.</td>
<td>Wilmington</td>
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<td>Behavioral Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April J.</td>
<td>Camden</td>
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<td>Behavioral Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle J.</td>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>Goldey-Beacom College</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Jane L.</td>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tara J.</td>
<td>Frankford</td>
<td>Delaware Technical</td>
<td>Middle Level Mathematics Education</td>
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<td>Heidi M.</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Diagnostic Sonography</td>
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<td>Leslie M.</td>
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<td>Sindy R.</td>
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<td>Kei-Shanda s.</td>
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<td>Marcie S.</td>
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<td>Ruthann S.</td>
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<td>New Castle</td>
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<td>Business Management</td>
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<td>Kartlee W.</td>
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<td>Dana W.</td>
<td>Claymont</td>
<td>Springfield College</td>
<td>Human Services</td>
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### 2017 Fresh Start Graduates

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kristin Blake</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science</td>
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<td>Tiffany Cameron</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science</td>
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<td>Katrina Green</td>
<td>Springfield College</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Human Services</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Geller</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heidi Maradiaga</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Middle Level Educ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Jones</td>
<td>Goldey Beacom College</td>
<td>Bachelor of Arts in Psychology</td>
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<td>Tiffany Peters</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in HR Management</td>
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<td>Veronica Ortiz-Lopez</td>
<td>Goldey Beacom College</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Accounting</td>
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<td>Marcie Shahan</td>
<td>Delaware Technical</td>
<td>Associate of Applied Science in Business</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kei-Shanda Saddler</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Human Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camelia Vivero</td>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Business Management</td>
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Fresh Start Scholarship Mentor Program Update

The Mentor Program continues to be an important and effective component of the Fresh Start Scholarship Program. In the annual year-end survey, the scholars reported well over 250 contacts with their mentors – in person or via phone or email. Our mentors are making a difference in the lives of the scholars as evidenced in the following comments!

- Even though I have graduated, my mentor continues to be by my side and encourage/support me.
- My mentor’s willingness to share skills, knowledge, and expertise has helped me grow in my professional development by providing guidance and constructive feedback.
- The relationship I have with my Fresh Start mentor has been transformative and life changing!
- I am very happy with the support I have received from Fresh Start and especially from my mentor. I was so excited that she was able to celebrate my graduation with me.

2016-2017 Scholarship Program Update

Barbara Buckley, VP, Scholarship Program

Scholarships totaling over $87,000 were awarded to 34 very deserving Delaware women who were so appreciative of the support provided by Fresh Start.

I cannot thank you enough for this. This scholarship will help me in so many ways!!! - Tara J.

Thank you very much for this opportunity. It means more to me than I can express in words. - Tiffany P.

There were 20 returning scholars and 14 new scholars who attended 9 different colleges and universities in Delaware representing over 15 different majors in the fields of education, healthcare, social services and business. Geographically, 66% were from New Castle County but all three DE counties are represented. Of the 34 scholars, 25 are mothers raising a total of 50 dependent children. Since its inception in 1996, the foundation has now awarded more than $830,000 in scholarships to 186 women to help them achieve their educational and career goals. The 2016-17 scholars were recognized at a special reception preceding the FSSF 20th Anniversary Luncheon.

Sixteen Fresh Start Scholars received Associates or Bachelors degrees during the 2016-17 academic year. We are so proud of what they have accomplished and look forward to hearing about their success in the future! With this year’s graduating class, the overall graduation rate for our scholars has risen to 74% - a strong statistic for adult students.
2016 – 2017 Annual Campaign Donors

CHAMPION
The Huisking Foundation
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Fred
Richard and Mary Maloney
Dr. Janice Seitz

PATRON
Bill and Barbara Buckley
Joaone M. Capano
Christiana Rotary Club Foundation
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Raymour & Flanigan
Claudia Hughes
Judy Lewis
Claire McElwee
Nancy Rose
Sandy Scheibe
Siemens Caring Hands Foundation
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BOOSTER
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Back to Basics Learning Dynamics, Inc.
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Jan Jessup
Sarah Kenney
Ruth and Greg Lavelle
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County Women’s Journal
Shannon Cunningham
Cindy Delgiorno
Ann DiStefano
Michael and Lauren Field
Allison Finch
Aldo Gibellino
Robert and Linda Harra
Joyce Koria Hayes
Linda Heckert
Deborah Horn
Jerry and Lauren Hubbard
Kelli Kilbride
Marilyn Hyte and Patricia McGee
Bonnie Meszaros
Sherry Mouser
M. Yvonne Nass
Richard and Jane Pell
Michael and Brenda Pominoski
Samuel and Patricia Ponzo
Judith Powell
Suzanne Proud
Frances Quayle
Michael and Linda Ratchford
Diane Richardson
Elnora Rigik
Sharon M. Roach
E. Donald Shackelford
Frank and Jean Sobonya
Sparano, Vincelette & Joiner, CPAs
Russell and Bridget Tibeetts
Jennifer Watson
Margery Windolph
Valerie Woodruff
Judith G. Austin
Pauline Brittingham
Mary Cannon
Thomas and Martha Carper
Dana Dobson
Donna Duffy
Paul Fritchey
Alfred and Patricia Glessner
Ralph and Anna Goldrick
Robyn Graham
Patricia Howes
J.A. Jones
Jewelry Exchange of Delaware
Barbara Lekehates
Kimberly Lewis
Shaun and Heather Long
Barbara Longyear
Madalynn Schultz-Petit
Marcus Medroso
Mary Ann Michalewicz
Michael and Marjorie Mundy
Clementina Oje
Bonita Penn
Pepco Holding Company
Kenneth and Patricia Petro
Power of Strategic Insights, LLC
Kristen Petro Slade
Barbara Stockburger
Paul and Jean Stofa
Marguerite Vavalla
Sandra Walker

2016-2017 Financial Statement

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<tr>
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<th>Assets</th>
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Grants

Thanks to the following whose grants will be used to help fund the class of 2017-2018.

- Chichester DuPont Foundation Inc.: $12,500
- H.L. & D.C. Eliason Fund: $10,677
- Milton and Hattie Kutz Foundation: $12,000

Special thanks to the following whose grant funded the development and production of our new promotional video.

- Crystal Trust: $10,000

You Can Help

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

Checks should be made payable to Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc., and sent to:

**Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc.**
P.O. Box 7784
Wilmington, DE 19803

For more information visit www.freshstarts scholarship.org