“I want to become an airplane pilot because I like to go up in the sky.”
- CSF Scholar Edward
OUR MISSION

The Children’s Scholarship Fund (CSF) aims to maximize educational opportunity for all children: for those in need by offering tuition assistance in grades K-8 for alternatives to faltering conventional schools, and for all children by supporting and cultivating education reform and parental choice efforts.

WHAT WE DO

At CSF, we believe a quality elementary school education puts children on the path to success in life. To that end, we provide partial scholarships to low-income families so their children can attend the K-8 schools that will help them reach their full potential.

“I want to know as much as Thomas Edison!”
- CSF Scholar Jazlyn

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I meet the children and families CSF has the privilege to serve, I am always reminded of the potential within each human being. Who can tell what unique talents and skills lie within a child, just waiting to be discovered and given the tools to grow?

Throughout this report, you’ll find out what a few of our Scholars have in mind for their future. I hope you will be touched by all their hopes and dreams, and by knowing the scholarship you make possible empowers these children to fulfill their potential and make their mark on the world.

This year, scholarships from CSF and our partner programs are helping almost 24,000 children nationwide get a better educational foundation, and more than 158,000 students have benefited since our inception. Even beyond empowering our Scholars, the whole family benefits from the hand-up our scholarships provide.

CSF was founded on the premise that parents are the first educators of their children. By awarding a scholarship that makes it possible for a family to choose the school they believe is the best fit for their child, CSF puts power in the hands of parents, giving them a stronger stake in their child's education and encouraging deeper parental involvement.

I hope together we can give more families hope and help them put their children on the path to a brighter future through CSF scholarships. Thank you for your partnership.

Most sincerely and gratefully,

Darla M. Romfo
President & COO
CSF PARTNER PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE

NATIONWIDE 2016-17

23,851 Scholars served
$1,748 Avg. scholarship
$4,852 Avg. tuition
$33,436 Avg. family income

NEW YORK CITY 2016-17

7,563 Scholars served
$2,023 Avg. scholarship
$4,214 Avg. tuition
$33,812 Avg. family income

“I like reading because it makes me smarter.”
-CSF Scholar David
EMPOWERED PARENTS AND SUPPORTERS

CSF MOM AYANA

“I want to thank the Children’s Scholarship Fund for helping me give my son the education he needs and deserves. To know there is someone else who values my son’s education so much that they would invest in his future is wonderful. I couldn’t do this without you. I don’t know what career Ethan will end up pursuing in the future, but I will always support him, and I thank each of you for supporting him as well.”

CSF YOUNG LEADERS BOARD MEMBER JACKIE PALMA

CSF Young Leaders Board member Jackie Palma was part of a successful CSF team running in the United Airlines NYC Half this March, and she tells us CSF parents helped motivate her to run: “I am inspired by their strength and focus on ensuring their children are supplied with the tools and opportunities they need to succeed and reach their full potential. Education is important because it opens the door to a multitude of opportunities and enables people to excel!” We are grateful to have supporters like Jackie on #TeamCSF!
**CSF BY THE NUMBERS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

158,000

Children have received a CSF scholarship since inception

$695M

Value of all scholarships CSF and CSF partners awarded since 1999

23,851

Number of CSF Scholars in 2016-17 school year

2,314

Number of CSF Scholars graduating from 8th grade in 2017

158,000

Children have received a CSF scholarship since inception

$695M

Value of all scholarships CSF and CSF partners awarded since 1999

23,851

Number of CSF Scholars in 2016-17 school year

2,314

Number of CSF Scholars graduating from 8th grade in 2017

**HOW DO CSF PARENTS GRADE THEIR CHILDREN’S SCHOOLS?**

This graph shows the percentage of CSF New York parents surveyed in 2016 who gave their child’s school an A or B on the following factors: academic quality, communication, discipline, safety/environment, and teaching values.

**HOW DO CSF PARENTS CHOOSE THEIR SCHOOLS?**

Academic quality was the top reason CSF New York parents reported for choosing their child’s school.

“*My mom always says, ‘All it takes is all you’ve got.’*”

-CSF Scholar Skylar
In Fiscal Year 2016, Children’s Scholarship Fund and our partner programs distributed nearly $40.5 million in scholarships for low-income children nationwide.

In 2017, CSF was awarded a four-star rating (highest possible) by Charity Navigator for exceeding or meeting industry standards for efficiency and fiscal responsibility.

CSF also has been awarded the “Best in America” Seal of Excellence by the Independent Charities of America for meeting the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. Fewer than 5 percent of U.S. charities meet these standards and earn the ICA Seal.

Last November, CSF was honored once again with a Top-Rated Award by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user reviews about nonprofit organizations. The Top-Rated Award is earned by receiving a large number of positive reviews from volunteers, donors, and scholarship recipient families.

The above information was extracted from CSF’s audited financial statements, which are available, along with our IRS 990 form, on the CSF website, www.scholarshipfund.org.
OUR SUPPORTERS

(Donors who made gifts between September 1, 2015 and June 5, 2017)

$100,000+

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Levy Family Fund
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EMPOWER ME! 2016-17 IMPACT REPORT

options they otherwise could not afford.

Although they are not

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CSF wishes to recognize the many foundations, corporations, and individuals who provide funding to our partner programs across the country. Although they are not listed here, we acknowledge their vital role in giving low-income families educational options they otherwise could not afford.
EMPOWER ME! 2016-17 IMPACT REPORT

EMPOWERED SUPPORTERS AND ALUMNI

CSF YOUNG LEADERS BOARD MEMBER HUGO RODRIGUES

"Education is the bedrock of a successful society. It is tragic that the USA ranks so low on most education metrics when compared to other developed countries. It is the responsibility of Americans today to promote education and help those who want to learn if we are to ensure America's continued worldwide influence going forward," Hugo told us. “Meeting the students sponsored by CSF justifies whatever time and money I contribute to the organization. The beauty of CSF's mission is that it tangibly affects the lives of the individuals it funds. It is special to see these students grow and fulfill the organization's mission.”

CSF ALUMNA SHARONEE VACA

"Scholarships are the golden ticket for many families. Personally, the reason I am here now is because of scholarships, and I will eternally be grateful for that. Thank you for opening the doors to an education that gave me the chance to chase my dreams.” Sharonee, a graduate of Notre Dame Catholic Academy of Ridgewood and Aviation High School, is entering her junior year at Cornell University in the fall of 2017.

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Mrs. Michelle Levell

CSF NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOLARS

122
CSF New Hampshire Scholars served in 2016-17

$1,817
Avg. CSF New Hampshire school scholarship in 2016-17

265
Children in New Hampshire have received a CSF scholarship since inception in 2013-14

$526,164
Value of all CSF New Hampshire scholarships awarded since inception in 2013-14
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CSF alumni at the Young Leaders Board cocktail reception.

CSF alumni from St. Jean Baptiste High School volunteered at a LitFest for CSF Scholars in December.

Together, the President’s Council and Young Leaders are CSF’s next generation of leaders, committed to advancing CSF’s mission in New York and beyond.

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EMPOWER ME! 2016-17 IMPACT REPORT

EMPOWER ME! 2016-17 IMPACT REPORT
“Doing stuff that you’ve never done before—like science—can teach you new things.”
-CSF Scholar Andrew
“When I grow up, I want to be a cake designer, a therapist, teacher, reporter, political commentator, geologist, or an advisor to the president!” -CSF Scholar Meron