

Davie Community Foundation – Article # 4

By Jane Simpson, President & CEO

In article one of this series; I said that the Davie Community Foundation helps residents set up charitable funds to make grants and award scholarships. In this article I will focus on scholarships.

\$238,542 Awarded to High School and College Recipients in 2019

Currently, there are 60 different named scholarship funds at the Davie Community Foundation. New funds can be opened with a donation of \$5,000, but we recommend adding to scholarships until they reach \$20,000, which equates to a \$1,000 scholarship annually. The person creating the scholarship can name it, decide what the focus of the award will be, and decide on the criteria for selection of recipients. The creator of the scholarship also decides if the Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee will choose the recipient(s) or if they will create a committee of community members. The Foundation Selection Committee takes pride in the numerical scoring used to ensure objective decision making and shares the system with community committees to help with their process.

In 2004 Bill Shelton got the Davie High Class of 1959 involved in creating a scholarship to help a Davie County High School senior, and in 2007 Patricia Shelton got her class involved by creating the Davie High Class of 1962 Scholarship. The Davie High Class of 1959 awarded its seventh scholarship and the Davie High Class of 1962 made its third award this year! Bill's vision is that one day all Davie High alumni will be involved.



In 2006 Dianne and Allen Snipes started the Dianne and Allen Snipes Family Scholarship to invest in the post-secondary education of Davie residents who are of the Methodist faith. In 2015, the Dianne and Allen Snipes Family Scholarship award went to a second year college student who had also received the 2014 award. Many recipients receive multiple year awards.

Scholarship applications are completed online through the Foundation website, www.daviefoundation.org. Once the application is completed, the student is automatically included in the applicant pool for all of the scholarships they are eligible for. Scholarships exist for high school seniors, college students and adults. Specific scholarship criteria may also be found on the Foundation website.

Scholarships for high school seniors are awarded at "A Night at the Oscars" which has become an annual event. Scholars enjoy learning more about the named scholarships, and they enjoy being "stars" for the evening as they receive their "Oscar" trophies. Scholars and their families have the opportunity to meet and thank the donors who are investing in their education.

New scholarships are opened every year. Some remember children and adults; others honor birthdays, families, and groups; and some simply invest in the education of another. All donations to scholarship funds are tax deductible and have proven to be a wonderful investment in Davie County people. For specific details about opening a scholarship fund, please contact me to set an appointment. Educating Davie young people truly does enrich the quality of their life.