

Chester County Futures
704 Haywood Drive
Exton, PA 19340
610-458-9976



Sponsor a Scholar

Our Mission

Chester County Futures, Inc. is a nine-year-old 501(c)3 non-profit academic, mentoring, and scholarship organization serving 130+ low-income 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th graders from Chester County whose socio-economic plight places them at grave risk of dropping out of high school. These are bright kids nominated by their school counselors. If their personal circumstances were different, they could easily earn a diploma. Instead, through no fault of their own, they face an unfair share of roadblocks.

Our Three-Pronged Program Outreach

► **Academic enrichment:** 43 curriculum topics and dozens of individualized topics are covered in bi-weekly school-based sessions led by three CCF program coordinators. In addition, students give back to their hometown areas by taking part in an array of CCF-sponsored community service projects.

Goal: To arm disadvantaged students with the academic and societal tools they need to succeed academically and economically on a par with their more advantaged peers.

Result: Improvement in standardized test scores, grades, school attendance, and SAT scores.

► **Mentoring:** In 2005-2006 dozens of volunteer mentors from all walks of life will serve as guest presenters in our classrooms, offering advice, advocacy, wisdom and encouragement. This mentor-rich classroom environment brings students face-to-face with reliable, trustworthy role models. We also recruit job shadowing mentors so the students can explore career options. Students who lack role models at home are paired with one-to-one mentors who provide personal guidance and friendship over several years. All of this support from the surrounding community sends our students a deeper message as well: That they are not alone. Often they ask about the people and the businesses whose dollars underwrite their program and their scholarships. They relish opportunities to meet benefactors. It is very personal for them. They want to know names and they like seeing pictures of donors.

► **Scholarship Assistance:** Upon completion of our high school program, students earn up to \$6,000 in scholarship funds for their higher education. We help them with SAT prep and with college and financial aid applications, keep tabs on them during their college years, advocate as needed, and cheer them along.

The Payoff: 100% high school graduation; 83% college retention

Despite the odds, an astounding 100% of our CCF students earn their high school diplomas, 76 students to date. To top it off, their college/post-secondary retention and graduation rate is 83% — more than double the national 41%* college retention/graduation rate for low-income students; and 33% better than the 50% national average for all college students. * 2004 US Dept. of Education data

Our Investment: Eight Years and \$24,000

We devote eight years of service to our students, providing everything from instructional support and financial aid, to human service linkages and positive-peer team building. We invest \$24,000 per student: \$4,500 a year for the four high school years they are with us; \$1,500 a year during four college years.

How Can You Join in This Very Personal Local Sponsor a Scholar Mission?

Sponsor an at-risk CCF high school student from one of Chester County's poorest school districts. A donation of \$4,500 covers an entire year of program service. Make a pledge of \$18,000 spread over four years to Sponsor a Scholar all through 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades. Or pledge \$24,000 to Sponsor a Scholar for high school and college.

Sponsor a Scholar



**\$4,500 High School
Sophomore Year
Sponsorship Includes**

Less than \$12.33 a day
to help an at-risk
Sophomore earn a
high school diploma
plus a chance at a
college degree.

- Back to School Start Up Kit \$100
Buys **your** student some basic school supplies.
- Literacy Program \$300
Buys a series of books **your** student needs to take part in literacy-boosting classes.
- Points to Success \$140
Your student will earn points all year for grades attendance, community service, etc. Each marking period, **your** student's points will be converted to a cash stipend funded by **you**.
- Mentor Match Program..... \$200
Through **your** support, **your** student will interact with mentors (adult role models) during the year.
- Community Service Projects.....\$50
Your student will take part in up to 4 community service projects to convey the value of giving back.
- Student Development.....\$350
Your donation funds academic enrichment opportunities for **your** student.
- After-School Program.....\$2000
- Before-School Program..... \$1000
Before- and After-School our main work with **your** student takes place via 43 curriculum topics, guest mentors, peer support, team building, etc.
- Special Events and Celebrations..... \$60
- Emergency Assistance.....\$250
Your student can draw on this fund for anything from summer school fees to emergency food.
- End of Year Celebration.....\$50
Tickets for **you** and **your** student to attend the Spring 2005 CCF awards banquet.