Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship Foundation  
Helping young adults with CF pursue their dreams  
SUMMER 2017

From the President:

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, in April the Scholarship Committee awarded $130,000 of financial aid to 39 young adults with cystic fibrosis. Our scholarship recipients will attend a variety of community colleges, state universities, and private colleges, as well as vocational training. Though these young people have achieved so much, they are still in great need of our financial support, and just knowing that there are people—and strangers, at that—willing to help them obtain an education means so much to them. Your support helps them not only accomplish their goals, but deepens their sense of community, and further enkindles both their and our faith in the generosity of others. With these awards, CFSF has now awarded over $1.8 million in scholarships to over 850 deserving young adults with cystic fibrosis.

We would like to thank the Gaddes Foundation for all of their support over the years. Each year they fund scholarships to honor Michael Gaddes. Michael’s life might be characterized as that of a “gentleman” and “scholar.” Apart from being voted “Best Personality” by his high school peers and maintaining a large circle of friends, Michael’s life was marked by academic excellence. He graduated with a perfect 4.0 GPA from Waterford Kettering High School (Waterford, MI), which resulted in his earning several scholarships to study engineering at Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo, MI). Michael’s academic prowess continued at Western Michigan, where he graduated with honors while also earning one of the Engineering College’s most prestigious awards. His accomplishments led him to an engineering position with the firm PlasTech. In order to honor Michael’s achievements and love of learning, the Gaddes Foundation sponsors the Michael Gaddes Honorary Scholarship. Organizations like the Gaddes Foundation have played an important role in helping our young adults with CF achieve their dreams.

I wish to express my appreciation for all of those who have helped our young adults with CF pursue their dreams during the past eighteen years, and I know I am joined in this by all the recipients of the CFSF awards. Enjoy reading about one of the recent graduates who received a scholarship for the past four years as well as two new recipients.

Mary Kay Bottoff

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I am happily announcing my completion of four years at the University of Maine at Orono (UMO). I want to thank CFSF for supporting this time in my life. It has been a wonderful roller coaster ride of experiences and growth. From terrified leaving home feelings Freshman year to becoming a confident young woman in my Senior year, I have fought for and loved every minute. Let me share some moments in my journey.

Before I officially set foot on campus, my mother and I established my presence on campus with the disabilities office. For any future college freshman out there, this is a must do on the to do list. The disabilities office helped get me a medical single, testing in the disabilities office, and a letter notifying my professors, of possible accommodations I might need. Now that the foundation was in place, next was move in day. Woohoo!!

For freshman, UMO has a program called “The Maine Hello”, which has upper classmen move your things into your dorm room as you drive up to the door. I cannot tell you how happy my Mom was not to have to move my fridge and belongings into my room! Once I settled in and said good bye to my family, it was time to get involved. I joined Black Bear Leaders, Hip Hop and Ballet Clubs, University of Maine Mitchell Scholars, and Society of Woman Engineers. My engineering major kept me busy, but by the end of the year I was elected president of the Mitchell Scholars, and landed a position as a resident hall assistant for the next year. I did my annual hospital trip, and then worked a summer job.

Sophomore year went by in a flash. Junior year, in the spring semester, I had CF bring me to a halt just as I was about to make it to the finish line. I got sick and I didn’t get any better, I went into the hospital in April, a few weeks before finals. When something like this happens, on top of being CF sick, I had to talk to my professors, and fight hard not to lose a whole semester’s worth of work. When you have an unseen disability, it can make the fight harder. One professor, refused to help and it took several months of advocating and fighting to be able to retake the class without an additional financial burden. Thanks to all of those that helped with that stressful fight. Just to show storms can be followed by a rainbow, I got my dream internship at Genzyme, working in CF research for the summer. My goal in life is to take my bioengineering degree and use it to find a successful treatment for cystic fibrosis.

My senior year has been awesome. I spoke at the Senator George Mitchell’s Gala about my journey with cystic fibrosis. I was inducted into the Order of the Engineer’s Society, attended the national and regional conferences for Society of Woman Engineers, and was inducted into the Francis Crowe Engineering Society. Through all four years, I have been able to rely on my Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Scholarship. It helped me go to college with just a bit less on my mind, and let me enjoy these monumental years of my life.

For those who donate to this cause that is so very personal to me, I applaud you. I hope you know how much it has meant to me and my mother to have someone else have my back, and want me to succeed. Going forward I am dedicating my life and education to cystic fibrosis research, and I couldn’t have done it without the support of CFSF. Thank you!
Elizabeth Shea  2017 Jill Balboni Memorial Scholarship Winner

I am writing to thank you for your financial support of the Jill Balboni Memorial Scholarship. I am so grateful for the opportunity to apply and I was incredibly excited when I found out that I won! Like most universities, the tuition here at my school increases every year but my talent scholarship amount does not. So this scholarship is such a blessing for me. It will allow me to not have to worry about covering my expenses for next school year. It is hard to describe how much of a worry that takes off my shoulders. Now I can focus on working hard on academics and music!

I am a musician and my principal instrument is the flute. I am going to be a junior in the Stetson School of Music in the fall. This year I became a double major, adding flute performance to my music education major. My goals are to complete my undergraduate degree and then go on to graduate school for Master’s degree and then a PhD. My ultimate goal is to be a professor of flutes at a university.

I am also a member of the music sorority, Sigma Alpha Iota and the Treasurer-Elect. Our group is focused on service and community projects. One of my favorite events is the Instrument Petting Zoo where we invite disadvantaged children from area schools to visit the School of Music to try out all of the instruments. We help them learn how to create their first music notes and hope to inspire an interest in music so that they will go on to be a part of their middle school and high school music programs. Research shows the benefits of music education and that is one of the reasons I want to be a music educator.

Thank you so much for your support of this scholarship program and education for the cystic fibrosis community. You are making a huge difference in my life, making it possible for me to continue at Stetson to pursue my dreams and I could not be more grateful.

Elizabeth

Dear Friends of CFSF:

Wow! I am overwhelmed by your generosity and can’t thank you enough for honoring me with such a generous academic awards. I am looking forward to studying at VCU and soaking in all the knowledge I can in order to be the best at my chosen field as a computer science engineer. The future looks bright and I truly believe with all the new medical advancements, CF will be considered a disease that is not life threatening. That day can’t come soon enough.

Please know that this support is greatly appreciated beyond words. To try to describe my thoughts...I did well in school because I was raised that school is my job and you do your best whatever that job may be. I participated and excelled in sports because I love to be healthy, fit and truly have passion for them. I help with community/missions work because it makes my heart happy. I adhere to my therapy schedule because it not only makes me feel better physically, but it is doctor ordered. So, to be honored, noticed and rewarded for things that truly have been a blessing in my life already is very overwhelming and unexpected. I appreciate the confidence and will do my very best so that your gift isn’t wasted. As I ‘m sure you are aware, CF is a very expensive disease. This reward has taken much stress off of me and my parents this year and I am thankful beyond words. I can promise you I will do my best. God has big plans for me and I intend to use the gifts He has given me to do great things! I’m excited for what the future holds and look forward to my time in college.

Ben
37th Annual Phoenix Invitational Tournament

The Kevin Tidwell Foundation hosted the 37th annual golf tournament in Phoenix on April 22 and 23, 2017. The event kicked off Friday evening at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort with a light dinner and the silent auction which included 5 nights in a condo in Puerto Vallarta. Orange Tree Golf Resort hosted the golfers and a luncheon on Saturday which included a raffle of some great prizes. A portion of the proceeds were donated to CFSF in memory of Kevin Tidwell, a young man who lost his battle with CF. In April 2017, two scholarships of $10,000 each were funded from contributions of the Kevin Tidwell Foundation to CFSF.

The Kevin Tidwell Foundation’s scholarships have made a significant impact upon many young adults with CF. We are very grateful for the support this wonderful organization has provided to our young adults with CF over the years.

Upcoming Golf Event in Cincinnati Area

The 14th Annual Tim and Ritch Dangel Memorial Golf Scramble will be held on Saturday September 23. This event includes golf, a dinner and prizes at the course. The fee for this event is $80 per person. Proceeds from this event benefit CFSF. If you are interested in playing at this fun tournament, please contact Rick Niklas at 513-245-6021 or RJNiklas@gmail.com.

Tim and Ritch were brothers who both had CF. Tim died in 2001 at the age of 33 and Ritch passed away in 2006 at the age of 36. Tim worked as an architect in Cincinnati and Celina. He was waiting for a lung transplant at the time of his death. Ritch died from a rare liver disorder. At the time of his death he was the senior project manager for Messer in Dayton, Ohio. Ritch loved boating and water sports and was an accomplished “barefoot” water skier. Tim and Ritch never let cystic fibrosis keep them from living life to the fullest. Their family organizes this event in memory of the brothers and the proceeds are then awarded to one student each year who receives an $8,000 scholarship.

Upcoming Wine Tasting Event – Chicago

The annual Chicago wine tasting to benefit CFSF is planned for the Sunday afternoon of January 28, 2018 at The Chicago History Museum. This year we will travel to California to enjoy wine and food from the region. Our wine sponsor will be introducing our guests to wines from areas other than Napa and Sonoma. The afternoon will include a silent auction as well as a raffle and our fun Buy a Cork. We are seeking corporate sponsors for the event. Sponsorship levels are $2,500, $5,000 and $10,000. If you know of any companies who might be interested in this opportunity to help our young adults with CF, please contact the office.

If you are interested in working on the committee to help promote the event, please contact us at 847-328-0127. It is a great event and we would love to have more people share this wonderful afternoon with us.

Honor Someone You Love – Remember Someone You Miss

Searching for a special gift to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, the holidays or wedding? This may be the right time for you or someone you know to help our young adults with CF pursue their dreams. It is easy to do. Fill out the enclosed envelope and send it to CFSF. We will promptly send the recipient notification of your donation and send you an acknowledgement.
Scholarship Winners for 2017-2018 Announced

The Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the thirty-nine scholarships awarded in April 2017. The following students have been awarded multi-year scholarships:

Dara Broadnax Pennsylvania  Courtney Collins Indiana
Thomas Giblin Massachusetts Shade Hall Iowa
Aden Halpern Pennsylvania Briana Hansen New York
Abigail Havice Ohio Emily Hethcox Alabama
Alexi Kehoe Massachusetts Nicholas Kendrick South Carolina
Mackenzie Kokoski Ohio Justin Krienesky Wisconsin
Marcello Mazzeo Florida Sierra McCullough California
Ariana Metzger New York Matthew Saylor Pennsylvania
Breanna Stovall Alabama Theresa Webber North Carolina

The following students have been awarded single year scholarships:

Ryan Bennett North Carolina Tabitha Caldwell Texas
Nathaniel Canny Colorado Joseph Delaporta Massachusetts
Michael Delaporta Massachusetts Alec Feygin Illinois
Joshua Fielder Colorado Jane Heath Rhode Island
Benjamin James Virginia Stephanie Mckee New York
Noah vanHartesveldt Michigan Francesca Weis Louisiana
Kelsey Wessels Ohio Emily Woodward Vermont

We are pleased to announce that the recipient of the Kevin Tidwell Memorial Scholarship is Kayla Morgan. She will receive $2500 per year for four years. She is from Pennsylvania. This scholarship is made possible by the generous donation of $10,000 from the Kevin Tidwell Foundation.

A scholarship in memory of Glen Parsons has also been funded by the Kevin Tidwell Foundation. Glen was a founding member of the Kevin Tidwell Foundation who donated his time and energy to that organization for over twenty years. This $10,000 scholarship was awarded to Shania Rinaldi. Shania is from New York and plans to be a nurse practitioner.

Alexi Fernandez has been awarded the Tim and Ritch Dangel Memorial Scholarship. Alexi is from Texas and will be attending Brigham Young University in the fall. This award has been made possible by the fundraising efforts of the family of Tim and Ritch Dangel in Ohio. The family sponsored a golf tournament in Cincinnati, Ohio and the proceeds were donated to fund this scholarship.

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the Jill M. Balboni Memorial Scholarship funded by the LiveLearnBreathe Foundation. Each winner will receive a $5,000 award for the 2017-2018 school year. Julia Wright lives in Massachusetts and will be attending Harvard University in the fall. Elizabeth Shea resides in Florida and will be continuing her studies at Stetson University.

Abby Reed and Hope Fairchild are each recipients of the Michael Gaddes Memorial Scholarships funded by the Michael Gaddes Foundation in Michigan. Each student will receive $2000 per year for two years. Abby lives in Ohio and will be attending Cedarville University. Hope is from Minnesota and will attend the University of North Dakota.

We wish to congratulate all our award recipients as well as all our applicants and wish them all the best in their studies this fall. Congratulations to all!