# Scholarship Funds

A fresh look at a life-changing gift



#### **Everyone Wins When More Students Succeed**

At the Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC), we believe that every young person should have the opportunity to pursue their education, career, and life goals. We know that college degrees are vital to a thriving economy and build vibrant communities in our region. Too many of our young people with the ability and desire to succeed in college lack the support to do so. By taking a fresh look at our scholarship approach, informed by local research and by tested approaches in other California communities, we can change this reality.

**COLLEGE READY** 



33% of all high schoolers

Today, only a third of all high school graduates in Monterey County have completed the courses required to attend a California State University or University of California institution. The numbers are much lower for some population groups.

# Together We Can Help

Together with our donors and other community partners, we can help far more young people achieve their college and professional dreams. Our approach focuses on:

Providing scholarships to students with financial need. Currently, many scholarships are awarded only to the highest academic achievers; while these student recipients deserve recognition, many already have the financial means to attend college. Historically, not as many scholarship dollars have been available for students who have the ability and motivation to achieve in college, but lack the financial resources to do so.

Supporting students as they prepare for and enter college. Many area students need support that helps them academically and financially in college. Only 57% of local students apply for available federal financial aid—they and their families lack awareness of these funds and the application process. In Monterey County, where more than 20% of students are English learners, and where 70% of high schoolers are low-income, providing a solid set of proven support services can make a tremendous impact.

In Monterey County, our growing economy depends on education.

2030

By 2030, a projected 35% of area job openings will require a bachelor's degree.

2015

Today, only 23% of residents over age 25 have a bachelor's degree.





With the CFMC's scholarship giving options, which include a new pooled fund, as well as the ability to establish a named fund, you have multiple ways to invest in the future of young people and our communities.

#### Click

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## Contact



Christine Dawson Vice President of Philanthropic Services 831.375.9712 x126 christine@cfmco.org



Josh Warburg Philanthropic Services Officer 831.375.9712 x127 joshw@cfmco.org

# **Visit**

**MONTEREY** 2354 Garden Road Monterey, CA 93940

**SALINAS** 945 S. Main St., Suite 207 Salinas, CA 93901

#### Scholarship Donors Change Lives and Build Community

Thanks to many generous donors, the CFMC currently provides scholarships to more than 75 students annually. We are inviting interested individuals and businesses to join us to serve even more Monterey County students who have ability and need. College access and success are essential to quality of life for young people and their families. More college-educated professionals will strengthen our economy and civic life in the region.

**MEDIAN INCOME (2015)** 

with bachelor's degree



\$52,000

without bachelor's degree



## A New Approach

The CFMC is working closely with the College Futures Foundation, a respected, statewide innovator that has studied the experiences and achievements of 20,000 low-income California students who received scholarship funds. We are also drawing on new research conducted in our region by the John W. Gardner Center at Stanford University.

A new, needs-based Scholarship Fund will pool contributions and generate more resources to provide financial aid, as well as needed services to area youth. We are partnering with schools, educational programs, and nonprofits to provide a full range of support, including counseling services and access to additional grants and public funds. Relationships with trusted mentors, administrators, and program staff during high school will aid each student in their college years and beyond.

Our approach involves close collaboration with CSUMB/Upward Bound—a program that results in significantly increased rates of college entry and graduation—and with other important local programs including Bright Futures and Impact Monterey County.

#### Join Us!

As a donor to the Scholarship Fund, you can contribute to the growth and wellbeing of Monterey County for generations to come. Contact us for more information on how you can fulfill dreams and change lives in the place you love.

www.cfmco.org/scholarships

