“It’s been great! I opened my own business...Life is good!”

Do you qualify for Great Jobs KC?

Such #BOLD news WE want to share again! This is what it means to BE BOLD! Our newest partners showed up BIG for our Scholars!

KC SCHOLARS AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

BLACK PHILANTHROPY MONTH AND

BACK TO SCHOOL
Recently The U.S. Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional for colleges to consider a prospective student’s race in the admissions process. This ruling has thrown education professionals into the forefront of public discourse as they attempt to talk about what it means for future students, universities, and U.S. businesses. A 2020 study examining 19 public universities in states that had affirmative action bans starting around the mid-1990s found that “the number of Black, Hispanic, and Native American students enrolled at the nine surveyed flagship universities was 11.2 percentage points less than the share of high school graduates from these demographic groups in the states where the schools are located. This gap rose to 13.9 percentage points immediately after the ban and, by 2015, to 14.3 percentage points.” (U.S. News and World Report)

At KC Scholars, we stand ready to remove barriers to post-secondary education for students in Metro Kansas City. We know the importance and transformative power of education for students living in underserved communities.

We have awarded more than 6,000 scholarships in the last six years and the earliest group of awardees is due to graduate this year. In 2023, 77% of the scholarship applications received by KC Scholars were from persons of color, and our scholars are on track to achieve a 73% graduation rate.

Earning a degree makes a quantifiable difference to our learners and our community:

• Increased lifetime earning potential: According to the Department of Education, those with a college degree (associate or bachelor) earn at least $200,000 more over their lifetime than those without a college degree. That translates to at least $460 million in increased lifetime earnings for scholars and their families.

• This translates to $6.4 trillion in increased lifetime earnings for scholars and their families. College graduates are also healthier and more likely to volunteer and engage in their communities.

• Creating a legacy of education in our community: Many of our learners are also the first in their families to attend college, with 77% of KC Scholars awardees being first-generation college students. According to the U.S. Department of Education, children of college-educated individuals are 93 percent more likely to also complete a college degree.

• Positive economic impact on our community: According to the Brookings Institute, those with a college degree (associate or bachelor) spend at least $81,000 more during their lifetime in the local economy. This translates to a minimum of $149 million in increased spending infused into Kansas City’s regional economy.

One of the things that makes our scholarship programs special is that our scholars benefit from access to a wide range of support services: we provide ongoing coaching, counseling, and access to community resources they can use to help remove barriers to students’ success.

At KC Scholars, we are working to create a strong, education-first culture across our region. Our program is rooted in Ewing Marion Kauffman’s belief that education that leads to a great job is both possible and essential for all, regardless of income, age, or ethnicity.

Our first Core Value, the one that drives our mission and inspires us everyday is SCHOLARS FIRST, here is what our scholars have to say.

“IT’s been great! I opened my own business. I also work for a separate company where I have been promoted to Office Manager. Life is good!”

- Angenetta Smith
It is with immense pleasure and pride that we inform you that on Wednesday July 26th at the annual Power of Diversity Breakfast held by the KC Chamber of Commerce KC Scholars was awarded the Nonprofit Champion of Diversity Award. This award recognizes achievements in promoting diversity and inclusion through recruiting, retaining, developing, and nurturing a culturally diverse workforce. This recognition is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our organization to build a diverse team of employees who bring unique experiences and perspective to the workplace. Through diversity we are able to build a stronger team who strives to achieve our mission to increase postsecondary education and credential attainment of low- and moderate-income adults and to significantly expand the number of adults who secure family-sustaining careers. Our goal has always been to create a workplace that celebrates the unique perspectives, experiences, and talents of individuals from all backgrounds.

To view the video honoring KC Scholars click here
Join Us In Celebrating

We are proud to present the upcoming book launch event of our CEO Earl Martin Phalen’s book, Giving My All. RSVP to join the virtual book launch on **August 16th at 4 PM** by clicking the link below.

---

**SAVE THE DATE**
FOR THE BOOK LAUNCH

**Giving My All**
Earl Martin Phalen

GIVING MY ALL: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY
AUGUST 16, 2023 AT 4PM
To RSVP for VIRTUAL Experience

---

**RSVP Here**
Such #BOLD News We Want To Share It Again!

THIS is what it means to BE BOLD!
Our newest partners showed up BIG for our Scholars

$50 MILLLION
providing fifty scholarships worth $100,000 each annually for the next 10 years

$17.5 MILLION
providing fifty scholarships worth $50,000 each annually for the next 7 years
Tell Us What You Think

We thrive on feedback. Let us know what you think, review us on Google. It not only provides us feedback but the review helps us rank higher on Google which means more people find us and we can CHANGE MORE LIVES.

Use this link to leave a Google review:
http://search.google.com/local/writereview?placeid=ChIJl0jA8ZPvwIcR1ewob2APhHc
Great Jobs KC Update

What is Great Jobs KC?
Access to short-term, flexible, skills-based career training program that is TUITION-FREE, if you qualify.

• It’s short-term because you can complete the program in less than a year.
• It’s flexible because our training partners offer programs that include virtual, online, on-campus, hands-on, or even hybrid training.
• It’s skills-based because you master high-demand skills that employers are seeking in the following careers: healthcare, construction, information technology, logistics/warehouse, or manufacturing.

Find out if you qualify for our Great Jobs KC program. Fill out the form and find out. Or, if you think this is the perfect opportunity for someone you know please share the link with them.

See if you qualify
Scholar Support Resources

If your business or non-profit would like to become one of our Scholar Support Resources helping to provide support for our scholars please reach out us at CommunityResources@kcscholars.org

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION

CommunityResources@kcscholars.org
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MEDICAID HEALTH COVERAGE

Due to the declared end of the pandemic, Medicaid participants are no longer automatically renewed. All participants **MUST** complete renewal paperwork, which is sent out via postal mail. If you have moved and not updated your address with your state, you may not discover your loss of coverage until your next medical appointment. In order to continue receiving Medicaid coverage, you **MUST** update your information with the state.
In Kansas, enrollees can update their information by calling the State of Kansas at 1-800-792-4884 or visiting https://kancare.ks.gov/.
For personal assistance, El Centro provides Navigators in English and Spanish at 913-677-0100 or https://getcoveredkansas.org/find-navigator.
In Missouri, enrollees can update their information by calling the State of Missouri at 1-855-373-4636 or visiting https://mydss.mo.gov/renew.
For personal assistance, they can email the KC Care Health Center at navigators@kccare.org.
If you need assistance please reach out to your scholar advocate so we can put you in touch with someone who can help you through the process. If you don’t know who to contact at KC Scholars please reach out to communityresources@kcscholars.org
Getting Our Scholars Hired!

Our Employer Engagement team is hard at work getting our Scholars into great jobs. We are excited to welcome Swope Health and Children’s Mercy of Kansas City to our Employer Partnership Program.

We are partnering with local KC businesses through a program called: Great Jobs KC (GJKC) Employer Partnership Program. We want our Scholars to experience socio-economic success by entering jobs paying $45,000 or more a year.

If you are an employer, or know an employer, and are looking to invest in the Kansas City workforce contact us at Click Here To Email.
In the Media

Nonprofit WeCode KC helping adults gain new career skills

KSHB 41 Kansas City News | July 10

One of our partners along with one of our scholars we featured on KSHB recently. Through the help of KC Scholars funding, Jasmine was able to go through a tech training program with WeCode! Because of this training, Jasmine has been offered a promotion at her current work, Oracle. We are so proud of Jasmine and honored to be a part of her journey to success!
What’s In A Name?

Well, it could be yours. Our Development Team just completed assigning 43 named scholarships. Thanks to these amazing 20 donors $537,500 worth of scholarships were awarded to KC area students. Congrats to our newest Scholars and a HUGE thank you to our donors.

If you’re interested in becoming a Named Scholarship Donor please contact Laura Cooke lcooke@kcscholars.org
“Thank you so much for helping me get my CNA, it would not have been possible without KC Scholars assistance and your help setting it all up. I successfully passed the state exam with a 96/100 and I should be showing up in the Kansas registry sometime today. Missouri has very easy reciprocity for CNA’s so I will be able to transfer that over and work in both states fairly soon.”

— Lizy Dale GJKC

“I am happy and proud to achieve my bachelor’s degree in nursing and be the first in my family to earn a four-year degree in college despite my family situation and my age. I wouldn’t make it at the University of Central Missouri without the assistance of KCScholars Adult Learners Program. From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely appreciate the program. I hope someday I’ll be able to help back by supporting other adults to achieve their dreams.”

— Rowena Novarro
Adult Learner Awardee
She earned her BSN from UCM

CONGRATS SCHOLARS!
Bettering Ourselves To Support Our Scholars

The Better Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is launching in December 2023. To prepare for this upcoming change, two leaders of our scholarship team, Kailee Karr and Kaylie Smith joined college access professionals from all 50 states at the Better FAFSA Train the Trainer Summit in Washington D.C. recently. They are both now considered a Better FAFSA subject matter expert and are ready to train others who will be assisting our Scholars with FAFSA completion. We appreciate their leadership in navigating KC Scholars and those we serve through these changes!
Join us online EVERY Wednesday 12:00pm-1:00pm for a virtual information session.

Join on your computer, mobile app or device

Click here to join the meeting
Meeting ID: 221 112 442 485
Passcode: 37VfG6

Or call in (audio only)
+1 816-406-3910 618051675# United States, Kansas City
Phone Conference ID: 618 051 675#