Omaha Chapter Education

Family Empowerment

Scholarship Program

**Timing, duration, frequency of program**

The committee meeting in the spring and certification scholarship meetings in the summer-fall-winter. The chair has the additional responsibility of checking on the scholarship recipients at midterm and when class ends or semester ends to make sure the recipient is on track.

Four meetings per year.

**Fiscal Information**

Budgeted expense total for program last year: $55,000 The proposal for 2020-21, is $50,000 for collegiate awards and $15,000 for certification scholarships.

**Partnerships**

College of Saint Mary, Avenue Scholars, Heartland Family Service-The Family Works program, Youth for Christ and Mater Filius.

What role does your partner(s) have in the program? They nominate the parents they believe will run with the educational opportunity and they meet with them regularly. They work directly with applicants who strongly desire stability for their families. They keep CCS posted on student progress.

**Clients**

Number of children/families served your last fiscal year: 11

Age range of clients served: mothers

**Volunteers**

How many volunteers participate in this program (planning and working) 6

What roles do the volunteers have in this program? This program is accomplished through a volunteer board. Volunteers review the applications and choose recipients. The Board votes on the committee recommendation.

**Program Description**

Overall goal of this program: parents advancing in school and ultimately earning a degree; to get the parent on their feet and on the road to independence and stability and that will change the trajectory for a family

What service/materials do you provide to your clients? Collegiate scholarships are $5,000 each and renewable. Vocational scholarships can be as little as $500 for courses that can be done in six weeks, such as a certified nurse assistant (CNA).

The scholarship chair oversees planning and coordination with partner agencies; applications go to her. The committee reviews them and each member ranks them. Then the board decides how much money is available at that time to determine how many awards be provided. Recommendations are sent to the board for approval. Once approved, the chair notifies all applicants and works with the treasurer so that awards are sent to the schools of the winning candidates.

Success has a lot to do with the agency partners. They provide the day-to-day safety net the scholarship recipients need to successfully get through school. The organizations nominate the parents. They fill out an application as does the applicant. The committee reviews the applications and makes recommendations and then the board votes.

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