

The Starke County Scholarship Foundation Fund

In order for any community to thrive, it is important for education to be valued and encouraged. It is ideal for students to be supported in their educational endeavors and for these students to return in order to work in and serve their communities. The volunteers of the Starke County Scholarship Foundation work to benefit the community by aiding Starke County students in their pursuit of a college education.

The Starke County Scholarship Foundation was established in 1969, and it awarded its first scholarship in 1970. In addition to donations from generous community members, the Scholarship Foundation receives scholarship money from the Starke County Scholarship Foundation Fund, which was established through the Starke County Community Foundation in 1998 by Charles Peter.

Each winter, seniors are given the opportunity to fill out an application for the various scholarships that are available through the Scholarship Foundation. They are then asked to provide information about the activities in which they participate, where they will be going to school, and which career they will pursue. In addition, they must include their academic information.

Donations to the Starke County Scholarship Foundation are collected from various community members and businesses. Several memorial gifts have been donated in order to celebrate the lives of community members and provide needed scholarships to deserving students within the county.

The scholarship dollars are divided between Knox, North Judson-San Pierre, Oregon-Davis, and Culver (students must reside in Starke County) School Systems. Each school has its own volunteer committee that awards the scholarships, based on how much money is available each year.

Some donors designate their contributions to graduates seeking a particular career. One example of this would be a scholarship designated for seniors who wish to study nursing or teaching. Additionally, each valedictorian and salutatorian are automatically awarded a \$50 scholarship from the Fund.

Thanks to the support and generosity of Starke County community members, the Starke County Scholarship Foundation Fund has continued to grow and support graduates in their endeavors for continued education year after year.