



Making The Grade

Fall 2007 Newsletter

CSFB Makes the Front Pages

As the 2007-2008 school year began, Children's Scholarship Fund Baltimore received some much deserved publicity. Larry Perl of Patuxent Publishing interviewed several CSFB students as well as the chairman of the Board of Trustees Matt Wyskiel, former chairman Howard Baetjer Jr., CSFB office manager Joanne Sanders and Executive Director Paul Ellis. Mr. Perl then wrote an article that appeared on the front pages of both The Baltimore Messenger and The Towson Times. The article titled "Scholarship fund gives low-income families high hopes" appeared in the August 23, 2007 editions of both papers.

CSFB recipient Dolly Shettle, a third grader at St. Pius X school, was featured in the article. Dolly lives with her grandmother in the Govans area of Balti-



CSFB student Dolly Shettle and her grandmother

more City. Also featured in the article was Andrea Braxton a fifth grade student at Mt. Pleasant Christian School in the Pen Lucy neighborhood. CSFB "is a godsend" stated Lynn Braxton, Andrea's mother. "I hope one day my ship comes

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50 New Scholarships Awarded, 15 Siblings Added

Children's Scholarship Fund Baltimore is happy to announce that 50 new students have been awarded tuition assistance to attend the schools of their choice this year. These students were chosen by lottery from the waiting list of over 2,100 families. 15 siblings of children already receiving assistance have also been awarded scholarships. These children recently reached school age and were automatically added to the program in accordance with the fund's by-

laws.

"It is always gratifying to be able to call families and tell them they have been chosen to receive a scholarship," states Paul Ellis, CSFB Executive Director. "I only wish we could add more."

CSFB provides funds for elementary school education only. Therefore, each year we calculate the number of new applicants we can add based on the stu-

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Children's Scholarship Fund Baltimore

Giving parents a choice,
Giving children a chance

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giving children a chance**



CSFB makes the front page

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in, and I can make a really big donation because they have really made an investment in my child"

"I feel Mr. Perl did an accurate and thorough job in his reporting on Children's Scholarship Fund Baltimore", says CSFB chairman Matt Wyskiel. "Several people called us after reading the article and asked about making donations."

In 1999, Children's Scholarship Fund Baltimore began by granting partial scholarships to some 400 disadvantaged Baltimore City children in elementary school. Scholarships are granted for any non-government school of the parents' choice. Attesting to the resounding need in Baltimore City, there were 20,145 applications and/or inquiries for 421 available slots. This year CSFB will be providing tuition assistance to about 500 Baltimore children.

To read the complete Patuxent Publishing article you can log onto: www.baltimoremessenger.com then enter **scholarship fund** in the archive search.

New scholarships awarded

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dents moving to high school, the siblings starting in the program (all siblings are automatically eligible for scholarships) and adjusting for attrition. A computer then randomly assigns a number to every family on the waiting list and new scholarships are awarded using that order. Last year we awarded 37 new scholarships and added 28 siblings to our program.

This year the household income of CSFB parents averages approximately \$27,100, down about 10% from last year. The average CSFB scholarship amount for this year is \$1,757 but the average school tuition is \$5,566. Parents, after choosing the schools they feel best meets their children's needs, are required to pay the difference.

Currently, CSFB is committed to providing partial scholarships to Baltimore City children at an annual amount of approximately \$850,000. All funds are raised from private donations and are tax deductible.

Contributions are welcome.
