

Main Street Community Foundation has \$260,000 available for scholarships

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BRISTOL – The Main Street Community Foundation has a total of \$260,000 available for scholarships from 80 different funds this year. Students seeking them must submit applications by March 12.

There are scholarships available based on areas of study, students' individual circumstances, where students live or attend school or where they plan to continue their education. They are available to graduating seniors, current college students and adults returning to school. There are also a few scholarships available for students attending private and parochial schools in Bristol. Each scholarship has unique eligibility criteria established by the donor



Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation. -FILE PHOTO

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, explained that these funds come from endowments created to build a “permanent resource” to serve current and future needs.

“We're very grateful to the donors who established these funds,” said Sadecki. “They have an interest in advancing educational and career opportunities for students of all ages which is so important to the local community. Endowed funds will continue to provide financial assistance for students forever or until the need paying for education is no longer necessary.”

This year, two new scholarships have been established: The Ron Burns Community Leadership Scholarship Fund and the Katherine Dobroczyński Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The Ron Burns Community Leadership Scholarship Fund is available to a graduating senior who is a current member in good standing at the Boys & Girls Club of Bristol.

“This fund was established by his (Ron Burns’) family to honor his years of service to the Boys & Girls Club and his leadership there,” said Sadecki.

The Katherine Dobroczyński Memorial Scholarship Fund is available to a graduating high school senior of Southington High School with a preference given to current members of the Southington-Cheshire Community YMCAs.

Dobroczyński died in 2013 at 10 years old due to a childhood illness. At the time, she was a fifth grade student at Derynoski Elementary School. According to her obituary, she was a member of the YMCA and was active in many before and after school programs. She loved playing golf and taking lessons at the Hawks Landing Country Club.

“This would have been the year she graduated,” said Sadecki. “The fund was initially established by co-workers of her mom, but many other individuals, families and friends have contributed since.”

For more information on the scholarships and their eligibility criteria, visit mainstreetfoundation.org/apply-for-scholarship or contact Samantha Rajotte, scholarship and program officer, by email at samantha@mainstreetfoundation.org or by phone at 860-583-6363.

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