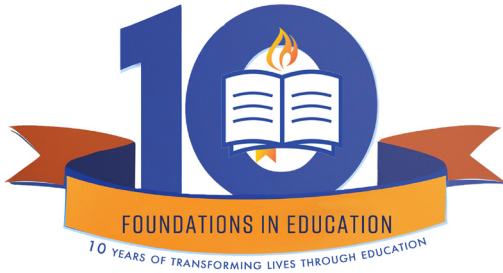


Foundations in Education Inc. is committed to strengthen and transform the mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Bridgeport by providing tuition assistance to families in need and supporting innovation in academic programs and fostering opportunities for the professional development of school leaders.

Dear Friends,

This year marks a very special time for FIE as we embark on our 10th year.



True to our mission, Foundations in Education Inc is committed to strengthen and transform the mission of Catholic education in the Diocese of Bridgeport by providing tuition assistance to families in need, supporting innovation in academic programs, and fostering opportunities for the professional development of school leaders.

This year also marks a transition in the leadership of our Board of Trustees. Effective July 1, our dynamic Chair, Thomas McInerney, transitioned to Past Chair and Joe Purcell has taken on the role of Chair. With a steady hand on the helm (Joe is former Navy!) and gratitude to Tom for his tireless leadership, we look forward to the next 10 years!

We are delighted to share in a wonderfully successful start to the school year. Stacie Stueber has seamlessly followed Dr. Steve Cheeseman as Interim Superintendent of Schools. Stacie joined us as we gathered in October to recognize 101 Leaders of Tomorrow. We are deeply grateful to the many donors who make this program possible. Thanks too to all our generous supporters of tuition assistance for low-income children and Innovation & Leadership Grants initiative for teachers. Your contributions have a transformative impact on young lives, enabling access to quality education and empowering students to reach their full potential.

As we reflect on the impact your contributions will continue to make, we are filled with hope for the future. Together, we are transforming lives and creating the opportunity for every child to succeed. Thank you for your dedication to our mission. Your partnership fuels our efforts to create lasting change for our students and teachers alike, and we couldn't do it without you!

With heartfelt gratitude,
Holly Doherty-Lemoine
 Holly Doherty-Lemoine, CFRE - Executive Director

FIE CELEBRATES 101 STUDENT LEADERS

This year, we recognized 101 Leaders of Tomorrow students and 47 sponsors at our annual breakfast reception.



"Continually serving others is a form of expressing our faith in and to God and I would like to thank each donor sitting here today for doing just that," shared Samantha Pierre.

Samantha is a seventh grade student at St. Theresa School in Trumbull, selected as this year's student speaker at the Annual Leaders of Tomorrow Reception.

Leaders of Tomorrow is a unique program of the Bishop's Scholarship Fund, which provides need-based scholarships to students in Catholic elementary schools who are identified by their principals as students of good character, strong academics, and leadership potential. Donors to the program transform the lives of children through the gift of Catholic education. In return, sponsors receive letters and pictures from the students they sponsor, and are invited to an annual celebration where they have the opportunity to meet the students and their families.

In his remarks to students, Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano shared, "As your spiritual father, I want to remind you that God loves you and has given you gifts and talents so that you may share them with others. That

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LEADERS OF TOMORROW RECEPTION CONTINUED

is what a true leader is. You are still very young and yet in your own way you are doing that with your classmates and for that I am grateful and I am proud of every single one of you."



Donors to FIE who direct their giving to Leaders of Tomorrow help subsidize the cost of a Catholic elementary school tuition for one or more students by providing a child's tuition up to \$6,000 per year, partial at \$3,000

per year, or a quarter at \$1,500 per year. As an investor in the education of a child, these special donors provide a life-enhancing gift and help transform the life of a student as well as their own through the gracious and selfless act of giving.



On behalf of the students and families, we humbly thank our 2024-2025 Leaders of Tomorrow Sponsors:

Paula & Tom McInerney [22]
Lizanne & Tom McDevitt [5]
Mary & Jon Rather [5]
Kris & Kevin Jandora [4]
Lautenbach Family Foundation [4]
Susan & Tom McInerney [4]
Amy & Kevin Owens [4]
Rocco Roina [4]
Venman & Co., LLC [4]
James Colica [3]
Kerry Reinertsen & Emmanuel Crabbe [2]
Mary Jo & Rob Dyer [2]

Eliza & Noah Hatfield Biondo [2]
Becky & Michael Shea [2]
Lori Church [2]
Kay & Mike Byrnes [1]
Moira & Thomas Cassidy [1]
Mary & Brian Donovan [1]
Christa & Tim FitzPatrick [1]
Nancy & Chip Howe [1]
Louise & Mark Howe [1]
Andrea & Jonathan Maldon [1]
Lisa & Joe Purcell [1]
Maureen & Bernie Reidy [1]

Barbara & Peter Ripp [1]
Lisa & Zubaid Ahmad [1]
Pat Brady [1]
Sarah & Matt Fair [1]
Lisa Ferraro [1]
Margaret & Joe Jordan [1]
Heather & John Kreitler [1]
Anne & Hugh McCrory [1]
Jody & John Myers [1]
Paula Summa & Jim O'Neill [1]
Erin & William Russell [1]
Kate & Gregory Salmini [1]

Carrie & Joe Sindelar [1]
Rosa Fini & Scott Sullivan [1]
Angela & Andrew Toner [1]
Mary & Simon Bound [1]
Chris & Al DiGuido [1]
Maria & John Joyce [1]
Deborah & Joseph Matthews [1]
Patrice & Dan McAuliffe [1]
Suzanne & Mark Nemeč [1]
Donna & Ron Sylvestri [1]
Lindy & Deacon Patrick Toole [1]



If you are interested in sponsoring a Leaders of Tomorrow student, or wish to learn more about the program, contact Holly Doherty-Lemoine at 203-416-1642.

Foundations in Education



GALA SAVE THE DATE: MAY 1, 2025

Honoring Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano and Thomas E. McInerney

FIE HOSTS CATHOLIC TRIVIA NIGHT

As part of FIE's 10th year celebration, friends came together at Brewport in Bridgeport, CT for a special night of faith, fun and fellowship. Teams tested their knowledge of the Catholic faith on topics such as The Old and New Testament, Saints and the Liturgical Calendar to name a few.

Director of The Institute for Catholic Formation for the Diocese, Dr. Patrick Donovan, served as "Quizmaster Dr. D." and led the lively competition. Teams collaborated to come up with answers. Proceeds from the evening support Foundations in Education in our mission to strengthen and transform Catholic education in the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Thank you to our event sponsors:

Doctorate Sponsor: Paula & Thomas McInerney

Bachelor's Sponsor: Eversource

Associate Sponsors: Maureen & Patrick Donovan, Bruce Lemoine & Holly Doherty-Lemoine, Monsignor Robert Kinnally, Anne & Hugh McCrory and St Luke Church Men's Group/Lisa & Joe Purcell

Award Sponsor: Aquarion Water Company

Friend Sponsors: Sacred Heart University and K.I.T.T.

In-kind contributions: Total Wine & More, National Football League, Litchfield Distillery, Hallow, Foundations in Education and Brewport Brewing Co.



10TH YEAR MASS OF GRATITUDE

On October 23rd, Foundations in Education hosted a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Matthew Church in Norwalk to honor our friends, volunteers and the generous support of our donors over the past ten years.

The gathering celebrated an important milestone and served to express heartfelt gratitude for the contributions of our valued donors, volunteers, and friends, whose partnership has been vital in advancing the Foundation's mission.

The Mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, who founded the Foundation on July 14, 2015.

"Tonight we are celebrating the gift of Christ's life in our midst and how he has whispered to every single one of us in our own way how he has used us as an instrument to create a bridge; so that those entrusted to our care may find the mystery that will invite them in to the adventure of everlasting life. My friends, thank you for your commitment to Foundations in Education and for all that you have accomplished. Let us ask almighty God to continue to grant us the strength and grace to continue this mission for generations."

-Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano

Following the Mass, attendees joined a reception and reflected on the significant impact of their contributions. We were blessed to have several current and former Board of Trustees members in attendance.

"This evening is a celebration of the tremendous impact our collective efforts have had on thousands of young lives. Thanks to our board, donors, volunteers, and staff, we have made more than 13,000 tuition assistance awards totaling more than \$26M. We are exceedingly grateful to our partners who made our first ten years such a great success and we are eager to continue our important work together for the next 10 years!" -Holly Doherty-Lemoine, Executive Director

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

The 2024-2025 Numbers Are In!

4,237
K-8 students in Diocesan Catholic elementary schools



2,312
K-8 students applied for tuition assistance



1,319
students awarded
\$2,851,855
in tuition assistance



\$7,069,685
overall calculated need



\$64,605
average
gross income

\$46,701
median
gross income



54%
raised by
single parents



55%
qualify for
free/reduced lunch



39% Hispanic, 31% White,
19% Black or African American,
8% Multiracial, 2% Asian, 1% Other



Board of Trustees, past and present, who joined the Mass

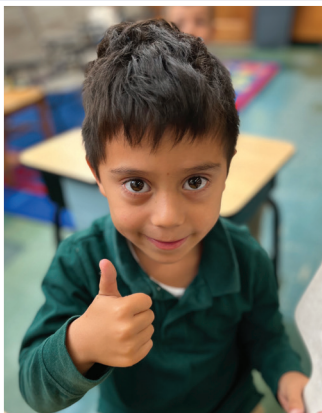
*Transforming Lives Through Catholic
Education in the Diocese of Bridgeport*

www.foundationsineducation.org

TAX-SMART WAYS TO GIVE

A charitable contribution to Foundations in Education Inc supports Catholic education across the Diocese of Bridgeport. Your gift helps more than 1,300 students attend Catholic schools annually. The type of asset you contribute can also offer you significant tax advantages.

There are several tax-smart ways to give that can maximize the impact of your gifts and your tax benefits. Strategies include donating appreciated stock, making qualified charitable distributions (QCDs), and contributing non-cash assets. This form of giving is a win-win!



Following are a few tax-efficient ways to give:

- **Donate Appreciated Stock:** By donating stocks that have increased in value, you avoid paying capital gains tax and can deduct the stock's fair market value. This allows you to give more while reducing taxes on your gains.
- **Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):** If you're 70½ or older, you can donate up to \$105,000 directly from your IRA to a charity. This counts toward your required minimum distribution but is not included in your taxable income, helping you lower your tax burden.
- **Donor-Advised Funds:** Contributing to a donor-advised fund allows you to take an immediate tax deduction while giving to charities over time, offering flexibility and financial benefits.

Please consult your tax advisor for your specific situation. Generally, using these tax-smart strategies, you can maximize the impact of your donations and your tax savings!