



Bright Ideas

Mission: To provide assistance to individual children for academic, cultural, and personal enrichment so that every child's light will shine.

President's Message

"Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out," said John Wooden. This quote seems very appropriate for the challenges we face with COVID fears and restrictions. We especially need this inspiration to be successful in times like these.

Board members of the Shining Light Foundation have found creative ways to fulfill our mission. There were few requests for ordinary school activities during the past school year, and we anticipate a similar lack of field trips, band, etc. for the upcoming year. We accomplished our mission by cooperating with other nonprofit groups to help children and our community in general. We donated to Rosa's Angels for Christmas and Easter, to the Salvation Army, and to other groups throughout the year. We donated to the United Way to provide school supplies through their "Stuff the Bus" project.

The gratitude shown by those who were helped inspires and energizes us. We are also encouraged by the support of donors, some who have only recently heard about our work. I am personally grateful to be part of this amazing group and feel privileged to serve as President.

Sincerely,
Carolyn French, Ph.D.

Zydeco/Cajun BASH

Our annual fundraiser, Zydeco/Cajun BASH was postponed last year to protect the health of our supporters. Donations from our supporters were very generous, including funds from a Canadian citizen who had enjoyed our events in previous years. We are working diligently to prepare for a Spring 2022 event and will keep all of our supporters updated on our new date.

The Shining Light Foundation

August 2021

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United Way "Stuff the Bus"



Board members of the Shining Light Foundation enthusiastically voted to donate \$500 to provide school supplies for the upcoming school year. Dr. Carolyn French, President, presented a check to Carlee Alm-LaBar, CEO of United Way of Acadiana to support their project, "Stuff the Bus." Logan Pierce, coordinator of the project said, "This is wonderful because it will allow us to purchase supplies that we don't already have." "It's always a privilege, and a GREAT idea, to partner with our local non-profit organizations for the benefit of our Acadiana Children. The Board of Shining Light wishes every child, a happy, healthy, and successful school year", said Dr. French. Board members who joined in the presentation were Mildred Baker, Bruce Snow, Cheryl Evans, and Michael Huber, all founding members of the organization, which has been supporting the needs of children in Lafayette Parish public schools as requested by teachers and counselors since 1997.

Scholarship Applications

We are currently accepting scholarship applications for the 2021-2022 school year. Please go to our website at shininglightfoundation.org for the most current forms and process. Below is a recap of eligibility requirements.

Qualifications for Scholarship Awards:

Any student enrolled in pre-K-8 Lafayette Parish Public school who has specific needs related to academic, cultural or personal enrichment. Instructional fees will not be funded.

Who is eligible to submit applications?

Any teacher, guidance counselor, or principal of a pre-K-8 Lafayette Parish public school may submit an application. No more than five (5) applications per classroom, per event will be considered.

Scholarship Amounts:

Amounts of grants are subject to students' needs and available funds.

Important Dates:

The committee should receive applications by the 1st of the month to be considered in that month. Those applications received after the 1st will be considered the following month. Applicant will be notified of the outcome by the second week of that month.

Application Requirements:

- Applications must be signed by all of the following: a) Teacher or guidance counselor, b) Parent or Legal guardian, c) Student, and d) Principal



Community Partnerships

As we embraced our new normal with the Covid pandemic, the Shining Light Foundation Board voted to help support other nonprofit organizations in our community. Below are a few photos with Toys for Tots, Hearts of Hope and Rosa's Angels. We hope this school year will be different and our kids will be able to enjoy additional academic, cultural and personal enrichment again.



Cheryl Evans, a Board member of the Shining Light Foundation, presents checks to support other non-profit groups, Rosa's Angel, Toys for Tots and Hearts of Hopes. These organizations focus on serving the needs of children in Acadiana. Carolyn French, President of the Shining Light Foundation, said "Our mission is primarily to meet the needs of students in Lafayette Parish public schools as requested by teachers and school personnel, but we admire and support the work of other organizations that take care of our children."

Financial Report



We would like to share with our community and friends the impact their contributions have made.

During the school year 2020-2021, the Shining Light Foundation awarded grants that totaled \$3,050. The recipients included several nonprofit organizations and community groups as we shifted with Covid and helped support special projects in our community in addition to our school scholarships.

The Shining Light Foundation

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The Shining Light Foundation is a private, non-profit, [tax-exempt 501\(c\)\(3\)](#) charitable organization governed by a board of directors. For more information on the Shining Light Foundation, please visit our website at www.shininglightfoundation.org.



Thank you to everyone who has supported our organization. Your donations and dedication is what has made Shining Light Foundation a success.

If you or someone you know would like to become a member of the Shining Light Foundation or would like to make a financial donation, please contact us at 337-984-8653 or visit our website at shininglightfoundation.org.

