Celebrating the Important Role You Play in Single Parent Success

2024 Fall Newsletter

'I Will Always Be Grateful'



Your support helped Synthia gain the confidence to finish her degree!

Dear ASPSF Supporters,

I wanted to take a few moments to express my gratitude. I have completed my final term and received my final grades with the news that I am officially a magna cum laude graduate with a 3.82 GPA.

While this reflects my hard work, I am not sure I could have been as successful without your support.

The funds allowed me to not have to worry about tuition or decide between completing my education or making ends meet. I am now positioned to leverage my degree to get better pay and increased position to allow for more flexibility and build savings.

The biggest thing this scholarship gave me was the confidence to finish my degree. The ASPSF team was always so positive and stood behind me whether it was kind words, a listening ear, or advocating for me at my school.

I will always be grateful to ASPSF and the generous donors. Single parents across the state are so blessed to have this program available.

Always Grateful,

Synthia, 2022-2024 ASPSF Recipient University of Arkansas Grantham, 2024 Graduate Bachelor's Degree in Business Management

ASPSF Board of Directors

OFFICERS -

Sunshine Bartlett

President

Arvest Bank

Sharmane Andrews

Vice President Simmons Bank

Michael O'Bryan

Treasurer University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Betsy Baker

Past President Rose Law Firm

MEMBERS -

Jean Block

Little Rock Water Reclamation Authority

Maret Cahill Wicks

Arvest Bank

Ryan Morrow

The Stephens Group

Mark Steenhoek

The Stephens Group

Eddie L. Thomas

Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Ventrell Thompson

Entergy Arkansas

Mike Weaver

Southern Bank

Ray Winiecki

South Arkansas College

- Why we give



Dr. Sherece West-Scantlebury spoke at ASPSF's The Lunch Break on Oct. 17.

Letter from the Executive Director

The holiday season is a time of reflection, and as I look back on my first seven months with Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude.

I'm thankful for those who make our work possible and inspired by the single parents who persevere to build better lives for their families.

Single parents face unique challenges: financial strain, limited support networks, and social stigma. In Arkansas, 35% of single parents live below the poverty line, compared to 9% of married parents. Meanwhile, 38% of Arkansas children live in single parent households.

These statistics tell a hard truth but also highlight incredible stories of resilience — single parents breaking cycles of poverty through education. Behind their successes are the ASPSF staff, donors, and volunteers who create a support system strong enough to help them succeed against the odds.

Our mission is more than work — it's heartwork. Your passion and dedication transform lives, and I hope you take pride in your role helping so many single parent families.



From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Genn mouneal

Jenn Morehead ASPSF Executive Director

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHTS

At The Lunch Break presented by Carol & Witt Stephens on Oct. 17, ASPSF raised nearly \$90,000 and celebrated four partners (pictured below) for their commitment to single parent success!



Edelma Simes (second from left) Outstanding Philanthropy Partner



Simmons Bank Outstanding Corporate Partner



East Arkansas Community College Outstanding School Partner, Enrollment Under 2,500



UA - Pulaski Tech Outstanding School Partner, Enrollment Over 2,500

Upcoming Events

March 21, 2025 **ASPSF Day of Giving**

Various locations

Mark your calendars for a 24-hour statewide gathering! Arkansans will come together as a community and lift up single parent students.

April 24, 2025 The Gatsby

The Vapors, Hot Springs

Garland County volunteers invite you to a 1920s-theme soiree to raise funds for single parents. The event will include live entertainment.

Oct. 2, 2025 A Day of Hope

City Center, Little Rock

Join ASPSF for its annual luncheon fundraiser celebrating the hope your support brings single parent families across the state.

Find more ASPSF events online at aspsf.org/events. For information on sponsorship opportunities, contact Christine Gronwald at development@aspsf.org.

Your Help Creates a 'Different Reality'

The pandemic uprooted so many lives, but not for Holly!

"The last and final time I used a substance was in August 2020," said the single mom.

Once sober, Holly started working at a nursing home as a laundry attendant. She then earned her associate degree and started on her bachelor's. She made the Chancellor's List and Dean's List and earned a promotion at work.



Holly (right) receives her ASPSF Fall 2024 scholarship with her daughter, Kinzlee.

But more importantly, Holly is repairing family relationships. Thanks to the single parent scholarship, Holly can spend more time with her daughter and has noticed positive changes.

"My daughter has been applying herself more to her school work, maturing in her emotions, and exhibiting better behavior," she said.

Holly expects to graduate with a bachelor's next fall and go on to graduate school and become a licensed social worker. One day, she'd like to start a nonprofit and help children whose parents are incarcerated.

"ASPSF has helped me to see there are people who want to see others succeed and want to help," she said. "The donors of this fund help break generational curses and create a different reality for not only the parents but the children."

Give Hope with a Year-End Gift

For years, Kwami was never quite able to make ends meet.

Everything changed when his daughter was born. He realized an education was the only way to provide a better life. As a single parent, Kwami received an ASPSF scholarship that allowed him to pursue his education.

Thanks to gifts like yours, doors opened to Kwami. To-day, he has three children who have watched their dad set an example.

As you count your blessings this holiday season, will you be a blessing to someone else?

Don't forget to make your tax-deductible gift by Dec. 31.



Help single parents like Kwami (right) build brighter futures.

CONTACT ASPSF

2102 Riverfront Drive, Suite 102, Little Rock, AR 72202 | 501.858.2010 | info@aspsf.org | www.aspsf.org

"You have helped relieve some of the stress and worry that happens with being a full-time single mom, working full time, and attending school."



Help single parents at aspsf.org/give

or use the enclosed envelope.

