

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

*Tyler B. Clark*

## Autumn Greetings!

As the leaves change and crispness fills the air, I cannot help but reflect on the remarkable journey we've shared with you over the past year. Fall is a time of transformation, and here at SPSFNWA, we're embracing this season of change with renewed energy and purpose. We've been celebrating our 40th anniversary throughout the year. **Ralph Nesson** and **Marjorie Marugg-Wolfe** created a legacy for us to follow, and I am proud to say that we've reached a record-breaking year.

### AS OF PRESS TIME:

**1541**

Scholarships  
Awarded  
(duplicated  
awards—recipients  
could be attending all  
three semesters)

**73**

Credentials and  
Workforce  
Development  
Certifications  
Awarded

**12%**

Scholarship  
Award  
Increase  
Over 2023

**14%**

Application  
Submission  
Rate Increase  
Over 2023

**\$1,060,659.89**

Awards in all  
Scholarships

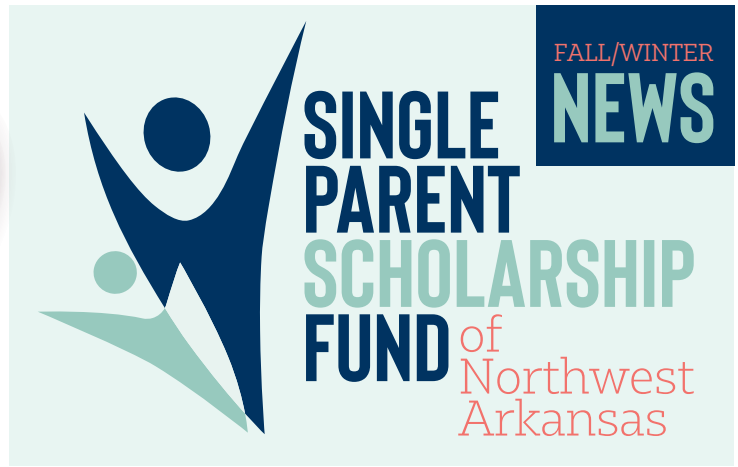
SPSFNWA is proud to welcome some new staff members this year, each bringing their unique talents and compassion to our team. You'll be introduced to them throughout the newsletter.

Thanks to your unwavering support, we've made significant strides in our mission by changing lives through higher education. Your contributions have been the cornerstone of our success, and we couldn't have done it without you.

This fall, we're excited to continue this momentum, with new projects on the horizon that promise to deepen our impact and broaden our reach. Your involvement, whether through volunteering, donating, or simply spreading the word, makes our work possible.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. We are excited about the future and look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the years ahead.

*Tyler*



Kenny Boyett, Chava Nesson Boyett, Kate Conway, Bob Nesson & Kathe Gregory



Tyler B. Clark, Kat, Mikki, Michael, and Mathew Bates

## RECORD BREAKING SUMMER AND FALL NUMBERS

SPSFNWA is thrilled to announce that we had a record number of **86 Degree and Credentialing and Workforce Development recipients** for the **2024 Summer Semester** and **199 applicants** for the 2024 Fall Semester! This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our recipient families, as well as the support of our staff and community partners. We are proud to celebrate this milestone and look forward to continuing to support our students in achieving their educational goals.

## 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Linda Tamayo  
Judge John Threet

Wendy Soderquist Togami  
Tacuma Williams

### EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

Ruth Collier  
Doris Cordes

Newsletter Sponsor





# SPARK OF HOPE

SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND of Northwest Arkansas

The Spark of Hope event was an incredible success, bringing together over 450 attendees in support of single parents pursuing higher education. Thanks to the generosity of individual donors, who contributed \$35,480, and the backing of our sponsors, who donated \$85,700, we raised an impressive \$121,180. Additionally, with \$35,500 in in-kind sponsorships, the event's gross total reached \$156,680.

We began the evening with a special VIP reception honoring our **founders, Marjorie Marugg-Wolfe and Ralph Nesson**, who co-founded this organization 40 years ago. The reception was a heartfelt tribute, gathering friends and family from both the Marugg Wolfe and Nesson families to celebrate the enduring legacy they created together.

The evening was hosted by **Kyle Kellams from KUAF and Jaclyn House from KNWA/FOX24**, the evening featured inspiring stories from our current recipient, Jaimie Aguirre, who shared her journey of overcoming a career change due to a disability, and recent graduate Hillary Bell, who reflected on her challenges and triumphs in earning her bachelor's degree. We also heard from the **children of alumna Winnie Milne**, who spoke about the impact of watching their mother achieve her degree.

The night honored the achievements of our 2023 Fall graduates and the 2024 Spring and Summer graduates from Benton, Carroll, Madison, and Washington Counties. We also recognized the remarkable contributions of our community partners with the Spark of Hope Awards, presented to **Dr. Terryl & Shannon Ortego, Ozarks Electric/Ozarks Go, and United Women in Faith.**

It was a night of inspiration, celebration, and hope, showcasing the transformative power of education in the lives of single-parent families in Northwest Arkansas.



Dr. Terryl & Shannon Ortego, & Tyler B. Clark



Hillary Bell, Alumna



Randy Werner, Ashley Harris & Tyler B. Clark



Mia and Alejandra, Alumna's Children



Jaimie Aguirre, Current Recipient

## ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY AWARDS

Each year, the Northwest Arkansas Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals celebrates philanthropy in a big way by honoring our local philanthropists on National Philanthropy Day on November 13th.

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

-H. Jackson Brown Jr.

### Celebrating National Philanthropy Day with Award Winners



National Philanthropy Day 2024



**Denton and Cathy Cole Seilhan**  
Outstanding Philanthropist Award

Nominated by the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA and CASA



**Adventure Subaru**  
Outstanding Corporation Award

Nominated by the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA



**Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA**  
Outstanding Philanthropic Organization Award  
Nominated by the University of Arkansas  
Supported by Dr. Dennis Rittle of NWACC and Washington Regional Medical Foundation

Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA proudly supported Naccaman Williams of the Walton Family Foundation for the "Special Judges Award."



## BACK TO SCHOOL

On August 1st, we celebrated back-to-school with our fall recipients and their kids with a drive thru pickup. 251 brand-new backpacks filled with the essentials were given out, and parents got a scholarship of \$100 per child to help pay for clothes, shoes, and other needs. A total of \$31,000 was awarded to 310 children. This Fall Semester we have 161 Degree Program recipients, 14 Credentialing and Workforce Development Program recipients, and 11 GAP Program recipients. We had great volunteers who were able to stuff backpacks and donate supplies. Special appreciation to **Coldwell Banker Harris McHaney & Faucette** and **Data Scout** for their support. Thanks to **Leo the Bryers Ice Cream Man** for keeping us cool in the heat.



## ADVENTURE SUBARU

Last winter, SPSFNWA was selected for the third time as one of two local charities for the **Adventure Subaru's "Share the Love"** event! **This event is entering its 16th year for Subaru of America, Inc.** During the Share the Love event, for every new vehicle purchased or leased from November 17 to January 3, Subaru of America donates \$250 to the purchaser's choice of participating charities. Last year, Adventure Subaru in Fayetteville matched the \$250 donation. Over the past fourteen years of the event, Subaru of America, Inc. and its retailers have made a real impact, **donating more than \$230+ million** to a wide range of national and local charities. For the last ten years, Subaru retailers have been able to select a **"Hometown Charity"** to receive donations, in addition to the national charities, and we look forward to continuing the Hometown Charity program this year to help increase the impact Share the Love is making in local communities across the country! **This year SPSFNWA was awarded \$75,000.**



## TOP EXECUTIVE AWARDS

Tyler B. Clark, President and Chief Executive Officer, has recently been honored by two prestigious publications for his exceptional leadership. In the upcoming October issue, the Northwest Business Journal will recognize Tyler as one of the top 10 executives in their tenth annual C-Suite Awards. This honor celebrates regional leaders who have significantly contributed to their communities and demonstrated outstanding professional performance. The C-Suite Awards highlight executives responsible for the top management of an operating department within their organization. In addition, Tyler is a finalist for the Arkansas Business 2024 **Arkansas Executive of the Year Awards**. The winners will be announced on November 5th in Little Rock, where Tyler is a finalist in the 'Small Nonprofit Organization Executive' category.

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
**Tyler B. Clark**  
President and Chief  
Executive Officer

**C<sup>the</sup>-SUITE**  
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS BUSINESS  
JOURNAL AWARDEE



## NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Check out full bios at [www.spsfnwa.org/leadership](http://www.spsfnwa.org/leadership)



**Michelle Cox, MS, LPC, LMFT, RPT**  
Behavior Health Counselor



**Ashton Donham**  
Scholarship Program Manager: Benton & Carroll Counties



**Quanesha Goodley, LSW**  
Scholarship Program Manager: Washington & Madison Counties

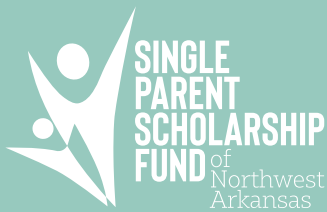


**Beth McCarter, MS**  
Administrative Specialist



**Stacy Seger**  
Senior Director of Philanthropic Strategy





## STAFF

**Tyler B. Clark**  
President &  
Chief Executive Officer

**Shannon Campbell**  
Chief Operating Officer

**Carrie Miller, GCDF, CCSP**  
Chief Program Officer

**Frankie Rankin, CFRE**  
Chief Philanthropy Officer

**Ashton Donham**  
Scholarship Program  
Manager

**Beth McCarter, MS**  
Administrative Specialist

**Gina Johns**  
Director of Grants &  
Donor Engagement

**Krystle Goodwin**  
Public Relations &  
Diversity Director

**Michelle Cox, MS, LPC,**  
LMFT, RPT  
Behavior Health Counselor

**Quaneshia Goodley, LSW**  
Scholarship Program  
Manager

**Renee' Hutton**  
Finance Manager &  
Executive Administrator

**Stacy Seger**  
Senior Director of  
Philanthropic Strategy

**Steven R. Hinds, M.Ed.,**  
CFRE  
Senior Director  
of Major Gifts

**479-254-8550**  
**SPSFNWA.ORG**  
**@SPSFNWA**



Platinum  
Transparency  
2024  
  
Candid.

# OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> TO 20<sup>TH</sup> LOCATIONS IN FAYETTEVILLE & LOWELL GOLFT<sup>®</sup>BERFEST



Special appearance by the  
University of Arkansas  
Student Athletes.

## VIP GOLFT<sup>®</sup>BERFEST



OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

PRESENTING SPONSOR  
**Commerce  
Construction  
Company, Inc.**

### EAGLE SPONSOR



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& FAUCETTE



### VIP TEAM SPONSORS



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### TEE BOX SPONSORS



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>  
6PM-9PM

**SINGLE PARENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND of Northwest Arkansas**

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PRESENTING SPONSORS

**Corey & Holly Davis**

**Dr. Terryl & Shannon Ortego**

MINGLE SPONSORS

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