

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



SINGLE
PARENT
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND

of
Northwest
Arkansas



Lynn's advice to other single parents considering school:

**“ Do it scared.
Do it uncomfortably.
Do it unsure.
Just do it. ”**

LETTER FROM THE CEO

As we reflect on 2025, I am filled with deep gratitude and pride for what this year represents for the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas. This was a year of meaningful transition, steady growth, and renewed commitment to our mission of changing lives by encouraging personal success.

In 2025, we had the privilege of supporting **293 single parents**, a **16% increase over the prior year**, and **526 children** whose lives were impacted. Together, we invested **\$1,190,887.50 in scholarships**, an **8% increase**, ensuring families could continue pursuing education while meeting the demands of everyday life. We also celebrated **70 graduates**, a remarkable **32% increase**, each one representing perseverance, determination, and the pursuit of opportunity.

One of the most powerful measures of our impact is what happens beyond the classroom. On average, single parents who completed our program saw their **salaries increase by 212%** from the time they entered the program to within six months of graduation. This growth reflects more than career advancement; it represents increased stability, confidence, and the ability to create lasting security for their families.

This year also marked a more intentional approach to how we serve families.

Alongside our **Traditional Degree Program**, which supports Associate's and Bachelor's degrees (and when funding allows, Master's and Doctorate programs), we continued expanding our **Credentialing and Workforce Development Scholarships**. These short-term, high-impact programs provide skilled professional training for in-demand careers such as Medical Assistant, Radiologic Technologist, CDL driver, and HVAC technician and so many more! Together, these pathways allow us to meet single parents where they are and respond to the evolving workforce needs of our region.

As we look to the future, we do so with optimism and intention. We remain focused on growing responsibly, stewarding resources wisely, and expanding access to education that leads to meaningful, family-sustaining careers. None of this would be possible without the dedication of the single parents we serve, the generosity of our donors, the commitment of our board and volunteers, and the hard work of our staff.

Thank you for believing in the potential of single parents and their children. Because of you, families across Northwest Arkansas are gaining stability, confidence, and opportunity—one semester, one credential, and one graduate at a time.

With gratitude and excitement
for what's ahead,



“ I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support this fall. Your contribution has had a meaningful impact on my journey, and I truly couldn't do this without you. Because of your kindness, I'm one step closer to achieving my goals and making a difference in the lives of others. Your belief in me inspires me to keep pushing forward, even on the hardest days. ”

**Joie, SPSFNWA
Current Recipient**



SPSFNWA Mission:

Changing Lives By Encouraging Personal Success.

Recipient income
at start

6 months after
graduation

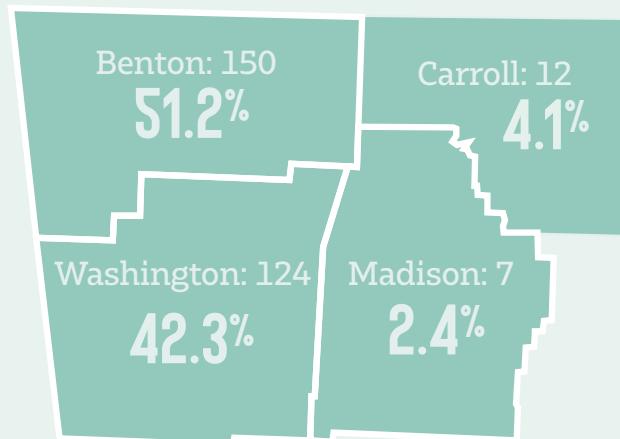


212%
INCREASE

\$30,819.20

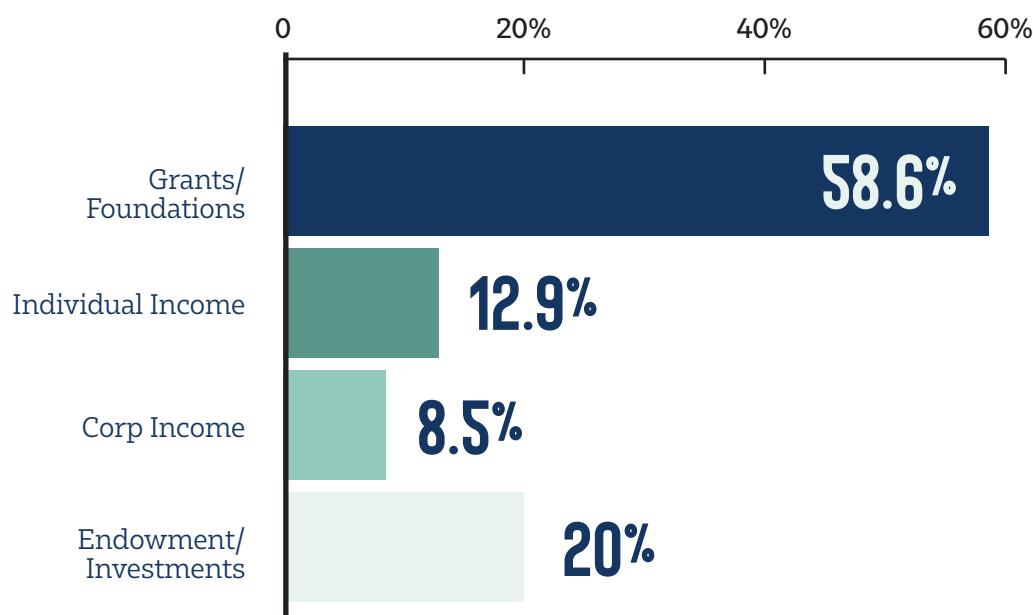
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

In 2025, per county



Gloria Fuller

ANNUAL SUPPORT



Recipients Served in 2025

293

Total Recipient Children

526

Total Scholarships
Awarded

\$1,190,887

“ The scholarship helps me pay bills, buy groceries, and cover school costs. But it's more than that. It's the community, the encouragement, and the belief that I can thrive, not just survive. **”**

Spark of Hope
Recipient Speaker
Gloria Fuller

598

Active Donors

68

Monthly Donors

\$146,104

InKind Donations

32

Average
Age

73%

Of new recipients were
first-generation college students

80%

Working while
attending school

3.39

Average
GPA

EVENTS



APRIL 4, 2026

SPARK OF HOPE



JULY 23, 2026



OCTOBER 3-24, 2026



OCTOBER 9, 2026



DECEMBER 3, 2026

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

SPSFNWA Counseling Numbers

36

Family Sessions

346

Individual Sessions

19

Adolescent Sessions

74

Play Therapy Sessions

337

Recipients Pantry Visits

SPSFNWA provides an on-site pantry with essential household and hygiene supplies for our recipients.

Receiving a blessing like this is right on time. My family and I appreciate your generosity! Times have been hard and I'm so happy to stay afloat.

Joy,
SPSFNWA
Recipient



70 GRADUATES

Each year, SPSFNWA hosts a graduation celebration to recognize the hard work, perseverance, and life-changing accomplishments of our scholarship recipients, alongside the families who support them.

TOP ATTENDED SCHOOLS



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS



PETRA ALLIED HEALTH



CROWDER COLLEGE CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION



Northark

TOP MAJORS

Nursing
Business
Education
Radiology

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BUILDING FOR SUCCESS



Single Parent Scholarship Fund of NWA is passionately committed to empowering single parents through the transformative power of education. As we continue to grow, we're thrilled to unveil our latest campaign, Building for Success! This new campus will be a nurturing and inspiring space where our recipients can flourish both academically and personally.



The new SPSFNWA campus will create a welcoming, purpose-built environment designed to better support single parents as they pursue higher education. Our 1.4-acre site, featuring a 13,000+ square foot facility along the I-49 corridor, will allow us to provide more accessible resources, hands-on programming, and individualized guidance. This space will foster connection, encouragement, and stability, helping single parents navigate their educational journeys with confidence and reach their goals for themselves and their families.

MABEE CHALLENGE GRANT

As of February 2nd, 2026, we have raised \$532,368 toward our Mabee Challenge Grant.

We have been awarded a transformative \$1 million challenge grant from the Mabee Foundation. To fully realize this extraordinary opportunity, we must raise an additional \$1.8 million by April 2026. Meeting this challenge will move our new campus from blueprint to groundbreaking and bring us closer to creating a permanent space where single-parent families can find stability, support, and opportunity.



This challenge is about more than bricks and mortar. Every dollar given unlocks hope, unlocks empowerment, and unlocks a future filled with possibility for generations of families across Northwest Arkansas. While we are grateful for the strong momentum we have built, there is still important work ahead.



We invite you to stand with us as a partner in this defining moment. Your investment today brings us one step closer to unlocking the full \$1 million challenge grant and ensuring that single parents have a place designed to support their educational journeys and long-term success.

Thank you for believing in this mission, for sharing our story, and for helping us #UnlockTheGift. Together, we are building something that will change lives for generations to come.



LYNN'S STORY

Becoming a single parent wasn't part of the future Lynn had envisioned. After leaving an unhealthy and unsafe relationship, she chose peace and protection for her daughters, even when the path forward felt uncertain.

The hardest part was wondering if this was all she would ever be, a statistic. Every night brought worries about keeping food on the table, whether her paycheck would stretch far enough, and if her past choices had jeopardized her daughters' future. She wondered whether she had the strength to do it alone.

Her daughters are her greatest motivators. While life didn't turn out as she planned, they inspire her to use education to break the cycle and redefine their story. During a season of searching for resources and support, Lynn learned about the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas (SPSFNWA). Initially unsure if she wanted to return to school, she applied for the scholarship at the last minute, praying, "I'm not sure what I'm doing, but I'm going to apply. If I don't get it, maybe it's a sign not to go back."

When Lynn learned she had been awarded the scholarship, she felt profound joy. For the first time, someone saw her not just as a single mother, but as a person actively working to change her family's trajectory. She is now pursuing a General Business degree, drawn to understanding how ideas grow, systems work, and businesses are built sustainably. After years in the nail industry, Lynn realized the physical demands and limited long-term growth led her to seek a career path that would provide stability, health, and opportunity for her family.

The scholarship lifted a heavy financial burden, allowing Lynn to focus fully on her studies instead of constant survival mode. SPSFNWA's support went far beyond tuition assistance, offering free counseling, pantry support, and school supplies that eased stress for her children and her. Regular check-ins reminded her that someone believed in her, providing encouragement and accountability that fueled her success.



One moment that stands out is the "Spark of Hope" event, where Lynn met donors and alumni who had walked similar paths. Hearing their stories strengthened her determination and belief in what was possible. Her daughters have watched her persevere, now excitedly talking about her graduation with pride, seeing hope and possibility lived in real time, even asking if she had recess in school after her first day.

For Lynn, receiving support from SPSFNWA has meant dignity, hope, and relief during one of the hardest seasons of her life. Her advice to other single parents considering school: "Do it scared. Do it uncomfortably. Do it unsure. Just do it." By taking that first step, Lynn has transformed uncertainty into a future filled with potential; breaking cycles, creating stability, and building a life she once thought impossible.



“Do it scared. Do it uncomfortably. Do it unsure. Just do it.”