

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe this year is about to come to a close. As we reflect on the triumphs and challenges of 2019 and set new goals for 2020, this is a heartfelt request that you consider making a donation to the Linda Lorelle Scholarship Fund and the students we serve.

For the last 28 years we have provided college scholarships and life skills training to students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to educate themselves beyond high school. Most recently, we have added a workforce component to our efforts in direct response to the needs of industries concerned about where their future workforce is coming from. Our SmartUp Houston initiative, in partnership with the Greater Houston Partnership, helps students connect the dots between what to study on a 2-year or 4-year college campus, and the required skills to secure current and future well-paying jobs in multiple industries. If you represent one of those industries, we are here for you to help make students aware of what you have to offer; and we need your financial support to keep reaching and educating those students so that our future economy is sustainable.

We are proud to have hundreds of student success stories to share, including those of **four former Lorelle Scholars who now sit on our Board of Directors!** We have just extended a Board invitation to a fifth former Lorelle Scholar. Here's part of the thank you note she wrote to us after receiving her scholarship in 2003:

"If words could describe...Imagine being so happy that even on your worst day, you could look back at that moment and still smile so hard that tears come racing down your face. You did more than set a foundation, you gave me hope and put my mind at ease because before, I had no idea how I was going to attend a university of my choice with no money! I appreciate everything that you have done to make this possible because one day I will be a tremendous role model and I want to be a blessing to someone else as you have been to me."

Denise Booker Middleton is now a News Anchor at FOX26 in Houston and is, indeed, that role model she envisioned becoming. She was the keynote speaker at the 2019 SmartUp Houston Conference that attracted more than 1,000 students and parents who engaged directly with college and industry representatives. In 2020 she will join the LLSF Board of Directors and continue to pay forward the investment that was made in her.

Donors are sometimes unclear about the impact of the funds they share. Rest assured that your donation will go directly to impacting the lives of bright young adults like Denise and so many others who deserve a chance to fulfill their potential and become the leaders of tomorrow. Please help all of their dreams take flight and give today.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year from all of us at the Linda Lorelle Scholarship Fund!

Linda Lorelle & Lou Gregory
Founders