



**Helping low-income single parents fulfill their dreams of self-sufficiency through post secondary education.**

Newsletter

Fall 2022

**Oklahoma Single Parent Scholarship Program (OSPSP)** is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 2016 on the principle of providing scholarship funding and support services to high potential, low-income single parents. With a bit of financial support and encouragement, eligible single parents - many of them working full-time, raising children alone, struggling to make ends meet and on the brink of dropping out of college - can earn life-changing degrees and escape poverty. Scholarships are offered twice a year for the Fall and Spring semesters. Potential recipients must complete an application demonstrating their need for assistance, potential for success, and proof of full-time enrollment. After the student is awarded, they are matched with a mentor to set goals and receive support.

## President's Perspective

*Jill Trauschke, Board President*



Hello, and happy fall!

At OSPSP, we have much to celebrate this fall! We had nine students graduate in May and are well on their way to successful careers and financial independence. In August, we awarded thirty-one student scholarships and expect six students to graduate in December.

We are grateful to our donors, mentors, and volunteers who have contributed so much to our success since our program began in 2016. Due to your generosity, we have awarded over \$184,000 in scholarships over the last six years!

Our annual *Reach for the Stars* fundraiser was held in September at Dunlap Coddling's event space, and we raised over \$46,000! Your continued support will allow us to accomplish our mission of helping high-potential, low-income single parents become successful, financially independent college graduates.

We are excited to announce that we are moving forward with our plans to start an endowment. This is essential for the long-term sustainability of OSPSP and will ensure we can continue to award scholarships for many years to come. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

Finally, I'd like to recognize our outgoing board members for their six years of service: Nadine Davis, Nikki Edwards, Regina Lane, Aleisha Karjala, Andrea Horsch, and Amber Martin. You all volunteered for OSPSP in its beginning stages and were instrumental in growing the program to where it is today. Thank you for your time, dedication, and perseverance. I'd also like to thank our board member Marcy Price and our Program Administrator, Jennifer Winfrey, for their outstanding work and creativity in producing this newsletter and Halley Reeves for evaluating our impact.

Lastly, as OSPSP continues to grow and serve more single parents, we would love to have more volunteers in our community to share in our mission. If you would like to volunteer as a mentor or help in any other way, please reach out to us at [admin@okspsp.org](mailto:admin@okspsp.org).

Enjoy this wonderful fall season!

*Jill Trauschke*

Jill Trauschke

***"This scholarship means so much to my boys and I. Without opportunities like this, I don't know if pursuing my education would be possible.***

**Timber Hendrex, Respiratory Therapy, OCCC**



# Reach for the Stars

"We are grateful to the many donors, sponsors, and volunteers who helped make this year's Reach for the Stars event a success! Since the inception of our program in 2016, we have helped 40 low-income single parents graduate with a college degree, and we expect 19 to graduate this academic year! Because of the generosity of our donors, we have the opportunity to help more single parents complete their education, have better job opportunities, and become financially independent!  
--Jill Trauschke, Board President



Niki Snyder, Stephen Snyder, and Shannon Pearson

## Sponsors

### Doctorate Level

Chip & Lisa Taylor

### Masters Level



### Bachelors Level

Bentley & Lisa Edmonds

Jean McLaughlin

Sean & Jill Trauschke

Jean Warner

Nissa Willis



Left: Monica Ybarra-Weedn - Event Emcee  
Middle: Adele Edmonds and Yaneida Caraballo - Event Speakers  
Right: Halley Reeves - OSPSP Board Member



Above: Nikki Edwards, Sean & Jill Trauschke  
Below: Danielle & Jason Francis



## Sponsors

### Associates Level

Dan & Barbara Batchelor

Barbara Bonner

David & Jane Edmonds

Michelle Edstrom

Marc & Nikki Edwards

Corey & Andrea Horsch

Dale & Ellen Ingram

Julie Kriegel

Kelli Mirabile

Nelson & Carla Pickrell

Daniel & Jamie Reineke



Left: Marcy Price and Jill Trauschke  
Right: Patty Ruffin, Lisa Edmonds, and Rick Ruffin



# Fall 2022 Scholarship Recipients!



## OCCC

Evie Bird  
Mandy Coplen  
Mizarette Dobganga  
Jarah East  
Timber Hendrex  
Mary Anne Jones  
Mercedes Lopez  
Sarah Metcalf  
Karime Molinar  
Kelli Swaim  
DeAvian Wright

## OCU

Kathrine Hughes

## OSU-OKC

Adrine Wanchie

## OU

Amber Battle  
Brooklyn Learned

## SNU

LaTisha Pruitt

## Rose State

Tristen Baker  
Tyanne Brewer  
Crytal Fry  
Delisha Gardner

## USAO

Maggie Barnett  
Arianna Camerlin  
Chantelle Lanum

## UCO

Melanie Armstrong  
Lisa Ballard  
Sarah Clifford  
Tobie Golden  
Hope Gross  
Karla Santos-Perez  
Rosaura Teus



*"I can't thank you enough!  
This is truly a blessing!"*

Karime Molinar, OCCC, Nursing



Kelli Mirabile and Amber Martin - OSPSP Board Members  
Tyanne Brewer-Scholarship Recipient

## Become a Mentor

Did you know that in addition to providing scholarships to low-income single parents, the Oklahoma Single Parent Scholarship Program pairs scholarship recipients with a volunteer mentor to offer encouragement, a listening ear, and resource information. Mentors meet monthly and/or reach out by phone and text to discuss academic and career goals, obstacles and opportunities. As our student recipients grow in number, we also need to grow our mentor group to include professionals in health and nutrition fields as well as business areas.

Apply to be a  
mentor by scanning  
the QR code below



*We are both so thankful for the Oklahoma  
Single Parent Scholarship Program team and  
just feel grateful knowing that there are  
people out there who believe in us.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you!"*  
Arianna Camerlin, Deaf Education, USAO

## CONNECT WITH US

6608 N Western Ave, #322  
Oklahoma City, OK 73116  
(405) 261-9644  
[www.okspsp.org](http://www.okspsp.org)



# Thank you, Fall 2022 Mentors!

**Morgan Brammer**  
Danielle Coats  
Nadine Davis  
Adele Edmonds  
Nikki Edwards  
Tony Foster, Jr.  
Kiona Fowler  
Ellen Ingram  
Annette Jacobi  
Lindsay Katzir

**Monica Kraft**  
LuAnne Kuelzer  
Lori Lake  
Emily Lang  
Amber Martin  
Lisa McConnell  
Kelly Mirabile  
Donna Mullins  
Marcy Price

**Lexi Richardson**  
Maggie Schifferdecker  
Amy Smallwood  
Jorja Stevenson  
Charese Taylor  
Jill Trauschke  
Dorothy Weaver  
Susan Wegrzynski  
Jennifer Winfrey

## Spring/Summer 2022 Graduates

### **Melanie Armstrong**

*Enterprise Development*  
OSU-OKC

### **Kassil Bell**

*Organizational Leadership*  
University of Oklahoma

### **Yaneida Carballo**

*Nursing*  
University of Central Oklahoma

### **Tara Gray**

*Sociology*  
OKC Community College

### **Meagan James**

*Nursing*  
OKC Community College

### **Keila Martinez**

*Health Administration*  
OSU-OKC

### **Sherrene' Rhodes**

*Special Education*  
Langston University

### **Heavenly Shirley**

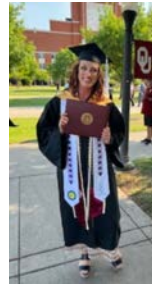
*Anesthesia Technician*  
OKC Community College

### **Deanna Taylor**

*Nursing*  
OSU-OKC

### **Shuntae Wallace**

*Respiratory Therapy*  
Rose State



## Student Spotlight



Lisa is a full-time student at UCO completing her college degree in Nutrition and Dietetics. In addition to her dedication to her studies and maintaining an excellent grade point average, Lisa is combining her passion for food and cooking with her passion for helping others in the community by volunteering with Project 66 Food Pantry, teaching evening nutrition lessons to parents and raising her school age daughter.

This semester, in addition to all of her science coursework, Lisa is taking a restaurant management class. Her professor asked her to be the first student in the class to run the campus restaurant, since she had prior culinary/catering experience. Lisa is gaining practical professional experience while completing her degree program.

"I enjoy meeting with Lisa regularly to hear about upcoming exams, opportunities and projects. She is motivated and dedicated to her academic goals and I am here to cheer her on as she manages her time, studies and parenting responsibilities".

*Marcy Price-Mentor*

# Evaluation Matters

The OSPSP evaluation committee was formed in early 2022 in order to ensure the organization holds itself accountable to funders and scholarship recipients, alike. The committee focuses on a few key goals:

- Identify intended outcomes for the scholarship program
- Develop organizationally-tailored key performance indicators including Return on Investment figures
- Develop evaluation plan and the tools to collect metrics
- Identify improvement opportunities

The evaluation committee identified several different mechanisms to collect the annual data. Some of the initial output is included here.

## 2016 - 2022 IMPACT

177 Scholarships Given  
90 Students  
40 Student Graduates  
31 Still Attending



FOR EVERY **\$1** DONATED  
OUR SINGLE PARENTS SEE AN AVERAGE  
ANNUAL POST-GRADUATION INCOME  
INCREASE OF **\$12.40**

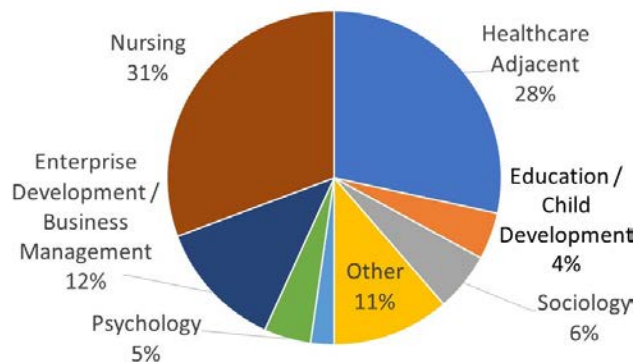
\*Estimate is derived from application materials and a post-scholarship survey first administered to scholarship recipients in 2022. Due to small population and sample size, this value will fluctuate from year to year.

Number of Scholarships per Semester



## HOW MANY SCHOLARSHIPS DO WE GIVE?

## WHAT DO THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS STUDY?





Help us offer more scholarships to  
deserving, low-income single parents

**Donate Now!**

**Scan the QR Code or  
[www.okspsp.org/donate](http://www.okspsp.org/donate)**



## 2022 OSPSP Board of Directors

Jill C Trauschke, President  
Lisa Edmonds, President-Elect  
Molly McBride, Treasurer  
Jane Nelson, Secretary  
Morgan Brammer  
Laura Burdette  
Steven Charles  
Lindsey Cummins

Nikki Edwards, Past President  
Anthony Foster, Jr.  
Andrea Horsch  
Aleisha Karjala  
Regina Lane  
Amber Martin  
Kelly Mirabile

Donna Mullins  
Marcy Price  
Nadine Rayan Davis  
Halley Reeves  
Monica Ybarra-Weedn  
Ellen Ingram, Founder

*Want to get involved? Join the OSPSP Board.  
[www.okspsp.org/newmember](http://www.okspsp.org/newmember)*

Oklahoma Single Parent Scholarship Program  
6608 N Western Ave #322  
Oklahoma City, OK 73116

