

Rebuilding Futures

Graduating Senior Scholarship



While natural disasters capture headlines and national attention short-term, the work of recovery and rebuilding is long-term.

-- Sylvia Matthews Burwell

Graduates of Bay County and other donors have come together to present an \$800 graduating senior scholarship to students impacted by Hurricane Michael in October 2018.

Hurricane Michael's Impact

On October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael made landfall near Mexico Beach, as a Category 4 storm. With maximum sustained winds of 155 miles per hour and peak storm surge inundations of 9-14 feet, Hurricane Michael was the strongest hurricane on record to make landfall in the Florida panhandle. In preliminary assessments, approximately 50,000 structures were damaged during the storm, with at least 3,000 destroyed (Weather.gov).

As recovery efforts began, many families who had evacuated from their homes had nowhere to return to, some choosing to move away from the area entirely. Those who stayed experienced limited resources and delays in public services, including education. On top of more tangible losses, students suffered lost instructional time and resources to support their dreams of higher education.

This scholarship aims to support a graduating senior, immediately affected by the devastation of Hurricane Michael, as they pursue higher education opportunities.

This scholarship is administered through the
Bay Education Foundation
1311 Balboa Avenue
Panama City, FL 32401
www.bayeducationfoundation.org



Rebuilding Futures Graduating Senior Scholarship Award of \$750

***DUE DATE: Return to the Bay Education Foundation
1311 Balboa Avenue, Panama City, FL 32401
NO LATER THAN MARCH 25, 2019***

I. Personal Information:

Student Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ FL Zip _____
Home Phone _____

II. Eligibility Assurances: check all that apply

- I am a graduating senior at a public Bay District Schools high school.
 I have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
 I lived in the immediate area affected by Hurricane Michael in October 2018.
 I have definite plans to attend college no later than the fall term after my graduation.
 I have not had any serious discipline problems in the past year.
 I agree to provide a photograph and to allow my name and personal information to be used for publicity/fundraising purposes if I am awarded the scholarship.

III. Activities and Service: (Please use the back of this form for additional space, if needed.)

Describe the types of volunteer community service you have performed and the number of certified volunteer hours you have earned in each.

List any school clubs/activities of which you are a part.

IV. Student Essay/Personal Statement

How has Hurricane Michael impacted you and your family? How were your plans for higher education changed by the storm? What are your current plans to pursue higher education? What are your career goals? Please answer these questions in approximately 500 words. Consideration will be given to appropriate spelling, conventions, and grammar. The essay should be typed or printed and attached to this application.

V. Letters of Recommendation:

1. Please include a letter of recommendation from your head coach or activity sponsor.
2. Please include a letter of recommendation from a past or present employer, community leader, social worker, or clergy. This letter must be written by an adult who is outside of the applicant's school environment.

VI. Transcript: Please submit an official school transcript.

VII. Please attach a current photograph to be used for publicity purposes. By submitting this application with the photograph, you agree that your photograph and name may be used in recognition of receipt of the scholarship should you be the selected recipient.

Signature of Applicant _____

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