

Illuminations receives financial support from various non-profit organizations, foundations, public charities, and other sources. In 2022, the following funding sources supported Illuminations' sliding scale program:

- Phil Hardin Foundation: \$20,000. As the primary sponsor of the scholarship fund, PHF supports 12 students on scholarship throughout Mississippi.
- International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM): \$1,550. The Machinist's Union of Lauderdale County, based at Naval Air Station Meridian, supports the goal of literacy for all. Their partnership, now in its second year, has provided financial aid to 6 students for therapy and tutoring services.
- C. Lake Foundation: \$7,500. A former Illuminations student and lifelong philanthropist, Ms. Lake is committed to increasing support in the coming years to fund students beyond the scope of our current grants.
- City of Meridian: \$5,125. Specifically allocated for Meridian Public Schools students receiving after-school services, this is the first year of funding from the city.
- Lauderdale County: \$250. Designated for Lauderdale County Public Schools students receiving after-school services, this is the lowest year of funding from the county. Illuminations currently serves 8 students from county schools.
- Church of the Mediator Outreach Fund: \$2,000. As Illuminations' longest-running supporter, this grant is annually allocated for summer semester needs.
- Meridian First Ladies Civitan Club: \$2,000. This grant supported 5 students and funded 2 evaluations.
- Community Foundation of East Mississippi - Life Endowment Grant: \$1,000.

In addition to these grants, Illuminations ran a \$25,000 sub-grant program for the Herron-Barksdale Research Project, studying the effects of early intervention on the reading ability of 4-year-olds. In 2022, Illuminations raised \$3,209.28 through fundraising events and drives, awarding a total of \$38,830.45 in aid to support 30 students in partial scholarships for therapy and tutoring.

These students' families applied for aid and represented 15 counties in Mississippi, 4 other states, and 2 other countries. In January, the board of directors voted to move to a sliding scale for all students, simplifying the aid application process to one form with two proofs of income to qualify. All services are now billed at a flat rate of \$50 per hour.

To support families facing financial barriers, the board approved grant funds to cover a portion of the cost for families earning less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Limit. In April, with an additional grant from the Cynthia Lake Foundation, Illuminations was able to further reduce the portion that these families pay. They hope to continue supporting even more families in 2023 as a result of increased funding.

