



Esther Funds Foundation History Guide

(for Collegiate Chapter Informational/Interest Meetings)

Every Future Fulfilled

Esther 4:14

Introduction

The **Esther Funds Foundation (EFF)** is an **award-winning, Christ-centered nonprofit ministry** dedicated to preventing college dropouts by providing emergency support, educational resources, and faith-based encouragement to **minority, first-generation, and low-income students.**

Founded on **January 23, 2024** by **Shayna Vincent**, EFF began as a vision in 2023 to break financial and systemic barriers that hinder students from completing their education. We believe that higher education should not be a privilege, but a **God-given opportunity** made accessible to all—especially those facing financial hardship, emotional distress, and a lack of support.

Through **advocacy, mentorship, service, and donations**, we equip students with the resources they need to persist in their education and graduate. Our initiatives include emergency financial assistance, mentorship, donation drives, scholarship opportunities, faith-based support, and mental health resources. While we started in **Tallahassee, FL**, EFF is rapidly expanding throughout the **United States**, establishing student-led chapters and empowering campuses to fight against dropout trends—one student at a time.



Our Mission

We work to prevent college dropouts in the United States by providing emergency support to minority, first-generation, and low-income college students—especially in the South—who face financial and systemic barriers to completing their education. Through advocacy, mentoring, service, and donations, we increase graduation rates and equip underrepresented students with immediate resources, long-term knowledge, and Christ-centered support.

Our Vision

We envision a world where minority, first-generation, and low-income students **graduate at higher rates**, achieve **financial stability**, and secure **equitable representation** in every field of the workforce. Our goal is to help **7 million underrepresented students** graduate, gain the economic and educational knowledge needed to break **generational poverty**, and build a successful future for themselves and others.



What We Do

At EFF, we work across four major pillars:

1. **Collegiate Chapter Expansion**

We establish student-led chapters across the U.S. that provide **mentorship, ministry, advocacy, and support** to prevent dropout.

2. **Scholarships & Donation Assistance**

While in our early stages, we provide scholarships as funds allow and host donation drives that directly support student needs.

3. **Faith-Based Community**

As a ministry, we foster **Christ-centered spaces** for students to grow spiritually and lean on their faith through college.

4. **Future Growth & Systemic Advocacy**

We work toward expanding our financial aid, mental health outreach, and educational resources to break systemic barriers.



Inspired by Esther

EFF draws deep inspiration from **the Book of Esther**—a story of courage, faith, and divine timing. Esther, a young Jewish woman, rose to the position of queen and risked her life to **advocate for her people**. Her story reminds us that God positions people in places of influence to fulfill His purpose.

Like Queen Esther, we believe our students have been called “**for such a time as this.**” Our foundation is spirit-led, prayer-based, and committed to empowering students to fulfill their calling—despite fear, opposition, or obstacles.

Through prayer, faith, and service, we follow God’s lead in building a movement that **uplifts, equips, and advocates** for the next generation of leaders.

Meet Our Founder: Shayna Vincent

Shayna Vincent, a fourth year college student, author, and future educator from Tampa, Florida, is the Founder and Executive Director of Esther Funds Foundation.

A student at Florida A&M University majoring in Elementary Education, Shayna is a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and a passionate leader with a heart for education, equity, and faith.

Her journey has been marked by trials—including academic setbacks and dropping out more than once due to lack of support. Those hardships shaped her passion for helping others. Through her lived experiences, Shayna realized how many students suffer silently, without the resources or encouragement needed to stay in school.

She created EFF to be the help she once needed: a faith-driven support system for students determined to finish their degree. Shayna often says we must “Every Future Fulfilled,” a motto that reflects her vision to raise awareness, provide hope, and build real solutions for systemic educational gaps.



Where We Are: Our Chapters

Esther Funds FAMU Chapter

Chartered at **Florida A&M University**, the FAMU chapter provides mentorship, service, ministry, and academic support. It has led initiatives like the **Back-to-School Bash**, community events, and student wellness outreach.

EFF UNCC Chapter

Chartered on **February 28, 2025**, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte became EFF's **first out-of-state chapter**, thanks to the leadership of Tamara Simpson. UNCC is committed to growing EFF's mission across North Carolina.

Chapters in Progress

Chapters are currently developing at:

- **Xavier University of Louisiana (XULA)**
 - **Florida State University (FSU)**
 - **Grambling State University (GSU)**
 - ...and more!
-

Highlights from Our History

Back-to-School Bash (Sept 2024)

Held at Saint Philip A.M.E. Church in Tallahassee, this event provided **school supplies, groceries, clothing, and resources** to students from FAMU, FSU, and TCC. With hundreds of attendees and powerful community partners like the Leon County Sheriff's Department, it became a life-changing moment for many.

College Dropout Prevention Walk (Jan 2025)

EFF hosted its first **College Dropout Prevention Awareness Walk** in Tallahassee, uniting students across campuses in advocacy, empowerment, and faith. With motivational signs, guest speakers, and booths providing mental health and academic resources, the walk raised awareness and sparked a movement for systemic change.

Preparing for Impact: EFF's Four Key Initiatives (Launching Summer 2025)

1. **EFF Ambassador Program** – Student-led support and advocacy across campuses:
 - Fundraising drives
 - Awareness campaigns
 - Resource navigation
2. **James Pillar Project** – Academic empowerment rooted in James' call for faith in action:
 - Scholarship & financial aid help
 - Mentorship & career planning
 - Financial literacy workshops
 - "College survival kits"
3. **EFF Lift Fund** – Emergency aid that keeps students enrolled:
 - Rent, housing, food, tuition, and transportation support

4. **Esther's Light** – A spiritual support community:

- Devotionals, prayer circles, Bible study, and mentorship

These four initiatives reflect our desire to not only meet student needs—but **change their future**.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare to expand in 2025–2026, we are inviting **businesses, donors, volunteers, and student leaders** to partner with us in changing lives. The need is great, but so is our faith. Through prayer, bold leadership, and divine vision, we believe we will reach our goal of helping **7 million students** complete their education.

This is more than a nonprofit. This is a **movement**—a ministry. A God-ordained mission to stand in the gap for students who would otherwise fall through the cracks.

Connect with Us

✉ info@estherfundsfoundation.org

☎ 352-999-3232

📷 Instagram: [@estherfundsfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/estherfundsfoundation)

🌐 Website: www.estherfundsfoundation.org

“We’re here to remind every student: God didn’t bring you this far to leave you. Keep going. Your future is worth fighting for.” 💖