

▶ The Family FOCCUS Initiative

Future Observers Creating Change Unified in Service

“Be the Change You Want to See in The World.”



THINKING POINT

Higher education affordability should be defined by what is reasonable to expect students and their families to contribute toward their education. We need action on the part of states, institutions, and policymakers at all levels to make this a reality.

The Family FOCCUS Initiative

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Unified in Service*

The Family FOCCUS Initiative (“FFI”) is a Gastonia, North Carolina based nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the at-risk communities of Gaston County, North Carolina.

We partner with schools, faith groups, businesses, and local government to support and uplift future at-risk students, knowing that no one organization can afford to do this alone.

Our community outreach team is helping to connect, organize and inspire the school’s internal champions so they have the support they need to educate and engage our students, their families, and teachers.

High School-to-College Scholarships

FFI is proud to offer High School-to-College Scholarships to high school seniors from at-risk communities, that are pursuing higher education. Scholarships will be awarded exclusively to STEM majors.

The FFI High School-College Scholarship is an academic support program wherein the at-risk student can receive the support they need

to help them demonstrate academic growth. The scholarship also helps with college preparation and proficiency while they are seeking opportunities to explore the world of higher education. Our support assist in providing a less-stressful high school classroom experience allowing educators to focus on preparing students to graduate high school.

Key Outcomes

- Value Added Scholarships
- Teacher and Students Stressors Relief
- Students Increase Proficiency Levels
- Enriched High School Experience
- Students Graduate High School with No Need for College Level Remediation

FFI Scholarship Mission

We are committed to supporting high school seniors facing life challenges by offering higher education “bridge” scholarships. We support at-risk student educational experiences (both inside and outside of the classroom) empowering them, their families and high school staff to serve as agents of change engaging in personal, professional, and social transformation by fostering:

- Strategic Thinking
- Goal Setting
- Continuous Learning
- Continuous Improvement
- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Personal Reflection
- Personalized College and Career Preparation
- Modeling a Culture of High Expectations



High School-to-College Scholarships (\$1,000):

FFI scholarships are strategically focused on providing financial relief to at-risk young adults in mitigating their academic quality-of-education stressors during their transition from high school into higher education.

21st CENTURY STEM SCHOLARSHIP

- **Objective** - Provide meaningful financial awards that acknowledge and assist with mitigating the financial stressors of African American high school seniors who have been accepted into institutions of higher learning.
- **Value-Proposition** - This is a onetime scholarship received the first year of acceptance into an institution of higher learning for high school seniors from at-risk schools that meet our qualifying criteria.

VETERANS VALOR SCHOLARSHIP

- **Objective** - Financial scholarship designed to mitigate the stressors of high school seniors that are dependents of service-connected disabled veterans accepted into institutions of higher education.

- **Value-Proposition** – This is a one-time academic financial award for high school seniors from at-risk population that are dependent children of veterans.

Second-Year Scholarships: *This funding opportunity is pending.*

Once funded, this thread gives recipients of the High School-to-College Scholarship an opportunity to apply for and receive stipends to mitigate their 2nd year of higher education academic expenses.



The application for 21st Century Scholarships and Veteran Valor Scholarships are open annually from **April 1st**, for high school seniors that meet the unique criteria of each scholarship.

Contact your school counselor or social worker for more details.

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The Family FOCCUS Initiative (FFI) is a faith-based organization structured and certified as a tax exempt, nonprofit organization under IRS 501 (C)(3) statutes.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Janet F. Maddox | President |
| Gladys K. Moore | Vice President (Operations) |
| Lisa Clement-Bryant | Vice President (Administration) |
| Daniel L. Moore, Jr | Director Outreach |
| Morris Bryant | Executive Advisor |
| John L. Maddox | Executive Secretary |