



# EMPOWER

MAINE CHILDREN

MAINE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND *Founded 2000*

SPRING 2008

## SCHOLARSHIP FOR SYDNIE A GREAT RELIEF

“The stress of losing our home and belongings has been lessened by receiving a MCSF scholarship.”

**S**ydnie Edwards just wants to be like the other seven-year-olds in her class at New Country School in West Baldwin. Sydnie's mother, Heidi, wants the best educational experience for her daughter. She chose to send Sydnie to New Country School because the school is small, offers an excellent academic program and

encourages creativity and individual learning styles. Sydnie is thriving in school!

Sydnie is a smart and ambitious little girl and a budding entrepreneur. She raises chickens, shows them at fairs, and sells their eggs. Having purchased an electric guitar with the money she earned and saved, Sydnie is now saving for a trip to Alaska. Those who know her have no doubt that she will reach her goal!

Heidi, a single mother, breeds and sells golden retrievers, but it has been difficult to make a living and pay for tuition. After Sydnie had spent 2 years as a student at the New Country School,

Heidi learned about the Maine Children's Scholarship Fund and decided to apply for a scholarship. She was thrilled when she was contacted in August and told that they would receive a scholarship for the 2007-2008 school year. Heidi wrote a heartfelt letter of thanks to the MCSF Board and staff.

Just when Heidi thought their lives and their financial struggles might be getting a bit easier, tragedy struck. During a late summer storm, lightning struck their home and it was destroyed by fire. Thankfully, Heidi and Sydnie were not at home when it happened. Heidi recently told the MCSF Program Director, “The stress of losing our home and belongings has been lessened by receiving a MCSF scholarship.” The community has rallied to support the family, donating money for them to build their home, donating materials for construction and purchasing school supplies for Sydnie. Friends and teachers at her school even bought Sydnie a new guitar to replace the one she lost in the fire. With the help of their community, the Edwards will soon have a place to live again and with the help of the MCSF, Sydnie will be able to continue attending the school that she loves.



### WHAT IS MAINE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND?

The Maine Children's Scholarship Fund (MCSF) provides scholarships to Maine children in grades K-12 to help pay for part of public, private or home-school expenses. MCSF provides 75 percent of tuition per child up to \$1,700 and the families contribute at least 25 percent. MCSF reimburses home schooling cost up to \$500 per child. Scholarships are awarded to all school aged children in a family. To qualify, family income must be at or below the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

"I like options and am stimulated by ambition and determination. MCSF gives ambitious and determined families the financial boost that allows them to select the most suitable school for their children."

Anonymous Donor

### Introducing Our Newest Board Members

Cathy Vawser is a mother of four. Her oldest has graduated from high school and will be getting married soon; her three youngest are attending a private school in the Bangor area. Cathy gives her time and insight as a parent to the MCSF Board.

Farrah Perry works for Penquis and has a great interest in education. She is attending Husson College to work on her Masters of Science in Business. Farrah will give the MCSF her knowledge of finance and become the Board's Treasurer. Farrah has joined the Maine Children's Scholarship Fund to help families in providing the best education for their child(ren).

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## Help a student on our scholarship waiting list with your contribution

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift to Maine Children's Scholarship Fund

- \$50 Believer     \$100 Supporter     \$1000 Leader's Circle     Other

Please make checks payable to Maine Children's Scholarship Fund.  
 Contact us for information about gifting of appreciated securities.

207.945.6893	www.mecsf.org
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