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## Community Foundation Awards \$225,000 in Scholarships

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts (CFSEMA) has awarded \$225,000 from 33 scholarship funds to 2011 high school graduates and current college students from towns and cities throughout the region. This represents a significant increase from the \$170,000 in scholarships awarded in 2010.

“As a leader in education, we have worked diligently to increase educational attainment and opportunity, one of the most critical issues facing our region,” said CFSEMA President Craig J. Dutra. “The increase in scholarships awarded reflects our commitment to helping our young people pursue their goals through higher education.”

Several new scholarship funds established at the Community Foundation in the past year contributed to the increase. They include:

- The **College Club of New Bedford**, which awards a minimum of \$500 scholarships to young women who are graduating seniors or graduates of New Bedford, Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical, Bishop Stang, Dartmouth and Fairhaven high schools. This, year 38 students were awarded a total of \$19,500 in scholarships through the College Club Fund.
- The **Marion Hamlet Award for Jewelry/Metals Education Support Scholarship Fund** awarded scholarships to four UMass Dartmouth students, for a total of \$4,170. The Fund provides tuition and other educational assistance to UMass Dartmouth undergraduate and graduate students attending workshops or study abroad within existing academic programs
- The **Lipsky-Whittaker Scholarship Fund**, established to celebrate the lives of John Lipsky and George Whittaker, who lived together for 52 years in a committed, loving relationship, awarded two \$5,000 scholarships to NBHS graduates.
- The **Nate King Memorial Scholarship Fund**, established in memory of 2009 NBHS graduate and standout swimmer Nate King, awarded a first-time \$500 scholarship to a 2011 NBHS graduate.
- Three Apponequet Regional High School graduates received first-time awards of \$1,000 from the **Gregory G. Misodoulakis Memorial Scholarship Fund**, established by his family to honor the memory of the 2010 Apponequet High School graduate, Gregory Misodoulakis. The scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the school community and who aspire to pursue a liberal arts and/or education degree, as Gregory did.
- The **Edward D. Thomas Scholarship Fund** awards scholarships to Foxboro High School graduates selected by the Foxboro School Committee. This year, two \$2,000 scholarships were awarded.

Other scholarship highlights this year include the **Jacobs Family New Bedford High Schools Scholarship Fund**, which increased its annual awards to three NBHS graduating seniors and one from the Global Learning Charter School to \$30,000 each, up from \$28,000 last year.

CFSEMA manages a total of 75 educational funds, including four local educational foundations, 62 scholarship funds, 15 educational funds for individual schools and programs, an Early Literacy Initiative, and

an adult education grant program. CFSEMA is also host to the New Bedford Education Roundtable, a forum of individuals and organizational representatives concerned about excellence in educational attainment in the New Bedford Public Schools.

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