Scholar Spotlight: Tina, NY

Meet Tina! In 2007, Tina decided to enroll in a community college for a Human Services degree. During that time of her life, Tina found herself pregnant, afraid, alone, and living in a domestic violence shelter. Nevertheless, Tina graduated with her Associate’s in 2009. She has continued on toward her Bachelor’s and hopes to work with women infected with HIV/AIDS as a social worker.

She also wants to go on to get her Licensed Masters in Social Work! Tina was the only one of her family to receive her high school degree and has already come so far from where she once was.

While juggling life as a single-mom and going back to school, Tina started her own non-profit in 2016, Southern Charm Charities, a community outreach agency aimed at coordinating youth and volunteer programs. “I love to learn, grow, and pay it forward and I believe I that having the opportunity to continue my education is a great investment for a future social worker dedicated to alleviating the conditions of those in need of help and social assistance. My surroundings drive me to succeed and make a positive change.”

It’s Time to Talk: Forums on Race

On March 19 we held our 2nd annual “It’s Time to Talk: Forums on Race” program at the UGA Tate Grand Hall Student Center. Dr. Anna M. Scheyette, Dean and Professor at the University of Georgia School of Social Work was the keynote speaker. She talked about the importance of having these kinds of conversations to make sure that #HATEWONTWIN. She was at the University of South Carolina, Charleston in June 2015 when the Charleston church massacre occurred.

Each table of participants held a conversation using Reflective Structured Dialogue facilitated by trained Volunteer Racial Justice Facilitators. “The table conversations were honest and people took risks in sharing their experiences with race issues. Across all tables, students and adults alike gave feedback that they want increased opportunities for these types of conversations at school," said Dawn Myers, Associate Superintendent of Policy and School Support Services, Clarke County School District.

Thank you to everyone who participated! A huge thank you to our sponsors for their support in helping to make this happen.

Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings Friends and Supporters -

Happy Volunteer Appreciation Month! Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers!

In January I had the honor of meeting and spending the day with JRF Scholar Madelyn. Madelyn really brought it home to me how important our JRF Scholarships are to the women who receive them. She shared with me how she was in a homeless shelter, reeling from an episode of intimate partner violence and how she was at the lowest point of her life. Then she received a phone call from us, letting her know she had received a JRF Scholarship. That call gave her the confidence to pick herself up and start over again. She is now finishing her junior year and plans on a career helping women who have experienced similar challenges.

Watch Madelyn’s her whole story: https://youtu.be/M2r0sc7tk5U

Your support makes it happen everyday for our JRF Scholars! We’ve been able to award more scholarships because of your generosity. Thank you for helping us help more women achieve their dreams and climb out of a life of poverty.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Yours for Women and Education,
-Karen

For the last two years, the Coca-Cola Foundation has given us a generous grant to help us empower more women through education. This year we were able to fund 60 more women! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!
Endowed Scholarships 2017-2018

An Endowed Scholarship is truly the gift that keeps on giving. A $50,000 gift will provide a JRF Scholarship for years and years to come. We are so grateful for our Endowed Scholarship Donors. Many, many thanks to the following Donors for providing this gift that honors a loved one while supporting a JRF Scholar every year.

Honor a Mother and a Sister - Vera and Anne Purser Endowed Scholarship

"On their way to visit an ailing relative, we lost my mother, Vera, and sister, Anne. A careless driver caused a senseless car accident, killing them both. On their way to visit an ailing relative, we lost my mother, Vera, and sister, Anne. A careless driver caused a senseless car accident, killing them both. In honor of Doris Evans & Helen Oldfield, we decided that giving, empowering partner a voice, a presence and a mission.

As it heads into its fourth decade, the Jeannette Rankin Foundation has helped hundreds of women with the same level of desire and determination displayed by Mom and Anne. No other organization speaks the language as clearly and eloquently for a group looking for assistance and affirmation. This is why the Jeannette Rankin Foundation now has a scholarship named the Vera & Anne Purser Award. It is a scholarship that will be given every year in perpetuity. Anne’s example of love gave us an option that provided solace amidst our grief. Their compassion and service to others was a legacy to preserve. We realized that education had been a silent partner in their lives. Mom used it to realize a childhood dream to become a nurse. Anne used it to reinvent herself as a teacher, and to reaffirm her dedication to her family and community. We decided to give that silent, empowering partner a voice, a presence and a mission.

...for many years. Our gift education..."