Established: March 2007
Type of Endowment: Donor-Advised Scholarship Fund
Donor(s): Neshia Bridges, family and friends
Honoree(s): The late Will Bridges of Fairmont, W.Va.

About the Fund

Will Bridges was an honor student and basketball player at Fairmont Senior High School and was attending Fairmont State University when he was killed in July 2005 at the age of 21. After his death, family members and friends organized community events and fund-raising activities under the theme, “Willing to Change Barriers” in our society, which uses Will’s initials, WCB. Proceeds from the events were used to initiate a fund to provide scholarship assistance to a Fairmont Senior High School senior who plans to attend Fairmont State University.

“This is what Will wanted,” says his sister, Neshia Bridges of Fairmont. “Will was a giving person who loved kids and loved being a mentor to them. Our family created this scholarship to remember him while helping other students attend college at Fairmont State. We want to preserve Will’s legacy by promoting the love of God and love for our fellow man.”

Eligibility Guidelines

The endowment is managed and invested by Your Community Foundation, with net income used annually to provide a grant to one student from Fairmont Senior High School who has attained at least a 3.0 grade point average, plans to attend Fairmont State and has written a winning essay describing his or her reasons for attending college. The Bridges family, representatives of the Marion County Board of Education and other local citizens will serve as a selection committee, in consultation with the board of directors of Your Community Foundation.

How Can I Donate?

The scholarship will be managed by Your Community Foundation, which will invest the funds to maximize their value. The net annual income from those investments shall constitute the amount of the scholarship award. Any individual, organization or business can make a tax-deductible contribution to the fund.

To make a donation, or to get more information, contact Your Community Foundation, P.O. Box 409, Morgantown, WV 26507. Call us at (304) 296-3433 or visit our web site at www.ycfwv.org.