

Pre-K Tax Credit Program | THANK YOU

Thanks to the support of area businesses like yours, our Pre-Kindergarten Tax Credit and Scholarship program helped 156 children from income eligible families last year with more than \$328,000 in scholarship funds. **But as impressive as those numbers are, they don't begin to tell the whole story.** Allow us to share with you a glimpse of the people behind the statistics. Below are excerpts from letters sent by just a few of the families you are helping with your support of this vital program.

We are writing to let you know that the United Way Pre-K Scholarship is a wonderful program. While we would never deny our children quality care or education due to financial concerns, this program has not only kept our children in an excellent program, but has also alleviated our financial concerns and kept us from having to live paycheck to paycheck. This program is one of the finest ways to ensure all children have access to quality care.

Our daughter has several medical problems and requires nursing care as well as many therapists. Due to the cost of these medical problems and hospital stays, our family has seen a financial hardship. This Pre-K scholarship not provided our family with a way to keep our daughter in a safe, healthy environment where she can learn and thrive, but also helped us know she was being well cared for while my husband and I are at work to support our family.

I am lucky to have a job; however, between utilities, student loans, groceries, and health care expenses, there never seems to be enough money to make ends meet. The United Way's Pre-K Scholarship program has helped take a very large portion of the burden of daycare off my shoulders so I could use that money on other bills that under normal circumstances would not have been paid. But more than that, it's impossible to put a price on the well-being of your child; knowing she is being taken care of when she is not in your sight.

This Pre-K scholarship has been a gift to my daughter and me for a few years now and each year it has played a huge role in maintaining our financial stability. As a single mom in college working hard to make a good life for the two of us, this program bridges the gap. Although my daughter will be starting kindergarten in the fall, we would no longer be seeking this assistance because I will have graduated college and be well on track—thanks in large part to this program.