



For Immediate Release

Press Release Contact: Sue Huff 239-596-7790

The Founders Scholarship Fund holds 2021 High School Counselors Roundtable

(Naples, FL – January 26, 2021) The Founders Scholarship Fund has been hosting a High School Counselors breakfast for over 15 years at Club Pelican Bay but this year due to the pandemic, that was not possible. The 2021 meeting was held as a Zoom roundtable where Founders Fund board members and scholarship committee chairs discussed current challenges and the financial needs of local high school seniors.

This year, 10 Collier County High School counselors were in attendance for the January 22nd meeting to discuss current student needs. The meeting with the Founders Fund Scholarship Committee better prepares the counselors to guide students through the upcoming scholarship application process.

Meg Tyre, Founders Fund Scholarship Committee Chair, addressed the requirements and the ever-increasing needs of financial assistance. She reminded the counselors that special circumstances such as a parent losing their job during the pandemic will be considered when reviewing the student scholarship applications this year.

According to Collier County Schools, there are currently over 3500 high school seniors enrolled in school at this time. Of those graduating this Spring, many will not be able to afford a college education unless they are supported by multiple scholarships from various sources.

“We wanted the counselors to know that we are still here for their students and will award scholarships this coming spring even though we were unable to have our golf and banquet fundraiser,” said Adam Crescenzi, Board Chair for the Founders Scholarship Fund. “We know that the pandemic has caused hardship for many families and we’re going to do our best to step in and help by easing some of their financial pressure associated with their child’s education.”

The Founders Fund selects approximately 24 to 35 graduating students each spring from Collier County High Schools to receive scholarships based on their academic success and financial need. The \$10,000 scholarships are awarded \$2,500 per year as a renewable scholarship based on the student maintaining a B average. Currently, the Fund has over 100 students receiving annual scholarships.

The Founders Scholarship Fund was founded in 1991 by Club Pelican Bay golf members and is a non-profit/tax-exempt charitable organization. Since its inception, over 700 students have been awarded more than \$4 million in scholarships.

For more information about scholarships, sponsorships or becoming a part of the organization, call 239-593-0124 or visit www.TheFoundersScholarshipFund.org.

PHOTO: Zoom photo of Collier County High School Counselors and Founders Scholarship Fund Board Chair and Scholarship Committee members