



## **The Scholarship Component**

*An Academic Scholarship Program  
Established in Honor of  
The Lives Lost and Forever Impacted By the Tragedy  
at Sandy Hook Elementary School  
For Future Generations of Newtown Students*

# Newtown Memorial Fund, Inc.

## Mission Statement

The fund itself is a memorial. It's not a plaque or a statue or even a building. It's an ongoing remembrance that provides care and support for those directly affected today, and for the entire community, for the long term.

- Restore** Provide for the immediate needs of the families of the 26 victims, those who were wounded but survived, the 12 children who were first-hand witnesses, and the others affected.
- Remember** Contribute toward a lasting, meaningful, physical memorial honoring the lives lost on December 14, 2012, and establish academic scholarships for future generations of Newtown students.
- Renew** By restoring and remembering, we will move our community ahead, together, starting today and forevermore. We have always been a united Newtown, and we will remain connected through that bond. We refuse to be defined by this tragedy. And we are committed to ensuring there are **New Days Ahead.**

## Statement of Purpose

Newtown Memorial Fund, Inc. ("NMF") is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization founded by concerned citizens. Our vision is to be the central repository for the many local and even global causes who are all reaching out looking for ways to help. Thus, NMF —by virtue of its mission has initiated ***The Newtown Memorial Fund Scholarship***, an academic scholarship program for students of Newtown to attend institutions of higher education (as an undergraduate seeking their first associate or baccalaureate degree) through the generous support of donors and fundraising efforts.

The establishment of any scholarship is intended to honor the memories of those we have lost due to the 12/14/12 tragedy. The scholarship program began in the 2013-2014 academic year and will be endowed to provide funding for generations to come. The Scholarship support is for Newtown students, with priority given to those directly affected (Section 1.4) who demonstrate academic potential and assist those with a demonstrated need (Section 1.3.D.).

The long term goal of NMF is to establish an endowed scholarship with a principle balance of \$2.5 Million to support an estimated \$100,000 per year endowed scholarship spending allowance. Consideration toward raising these funds and building an endowment is to support the greatest number of students identified as a priority that may be seeking higher education in the academic year 2021-2022 and incrementally expanding to the academic year 2025 -2026 and beyond.

The scholarship fund will be held and administered with Newtown Scholarship Association, Inc. ("NSA") a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. In the short term, NMF will designate funds as necessary to support those in immediate need while building toward its goal of a fully endowed scholarship.

## **Section 1: Program Objectives**

**1.1** The objective of *the Newtown Memorial Fund Scholarship* is to establish a permanent fund held by NSA. NSA agrees to establish and administer such fund, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, its policies and procedures, and any applicable federal or state laws as amended, which shall be named:

### **The Newtown Memorial Scholarship**

**1.2** Scholarship candidate(s) shall be awarded by NSA, under rules and regulations established by NMF, provided such rules and regulations are consistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the NSA's governing instruments and policies, and applicable law.

**1.3** To be eligible for the scholarship(s), candidate(s) must meet the following criteria:

- A. Be an incoming or continuing undergraduate student enrolled full-time in an institution of higher education;
- B. Reside in Newtown, Connecticut;
- C. Have submitted a complete NSA Scholarship Application;
- D. Demonstrate need (financial or otherwise) and family circumstances that would not otherwise allow them to attend an institution of higher education;
- E. Consideration will be given to student academic accomplishments and promise;
- F. Consideration will be given to those who demonstrate good moral character, citizenship and commitment to community.

**1.4** From those candidates that meet the criteria cited in Section 1.3 above, priority consideration will be given to:

- A. Immediate family members (Section 1.7) of the 26 who lost their lives;
- B. Immediate family members of the 2 wounded (Section 1.7);
- C. The 12 survivor witnesses [and their immediate family members (Section 1.7)] from the two classrooms at Sandy Hook Elementary;
- D. Faculty and staff [and their immediate family members (Section 1.7)] of Sandy Hook Elementary school on December 14, 2012,
- E. First responders and employees of the state medical examiner's office [and their immediate family members (Section 1.7)] present on December 14, 2012;
- F. Any student at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012.

**1.5** The Scholarship(s) may be renewed annually to the recipient(s) provided all renewal application criteria is met, the recipient maintains satisfactory academic progress as identified by the college or university and provided criteria specified above in Section 1.3 continue to be met.

**1.6** NSA will determine the amount and number of scholarships based on the amount of scholarship funds available for expenditure. Until an endowed scholarship spending allowance can sustain the scholarship(s), consultation with NMF will determine the amount and number of scholarships available annually.

**1.7** "Immediate family members" is defined to include; parents, spouses, children, and siblings. The definition also expands to include; step-parents, step-children, half and step-siblings.

**1.8** For those qualifying in Section 1.4 but are not enrolled in Newtown Public School or are not residents of Newtown, Connecticut who meet all of the other criteria in Section 1.3 above at the time of application; funding may, if available, be disbursed directly from NMF based on a recommendation from NSA.