

Press Advisory **The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County Announces New Scholarship Fund for the Central Coast** *The Julian Crocker Community Scholarship Fund Honors Previous*

SLO County Superintendent of Schools

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County has established a scholarship fund in honor of Dr. Julian Crocker, San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools from 1998-2015 and founding Board member and Scholarship Committee member of the Foundation. The fund will close the gap on making post-secondary education possible for more San Luis Obispo County residents, helping them achieve their educational goals regardless of financial need.



"It is an honor to have established this scholarship fund in the name of <u>Dr. Julian Crocker</u> and to recognize his leadership and commitment to our students," says Heidi McPherson, CEO of The Foundation. "We continue to build upon his living legacy and his ongoing dedication to supporting students' pursuit of higher education."

<u>The Julian Crocker Community Scholarship</u> will assist San Luis Obispo residents who demonstrate financial need for their education, with preferences given to students who are:

• Transferring from a community college to a four-year college or university; or

• Obtaining a degree/certificate in career technical education (CTE) at an accredited institution.

An initial gift of \$25,000 has already been made to support the scholarship, which will allow the first awards to be distributed in Spring 2023. Eligibility criteria will be evaluated annually by The Community Foundation's Scholarship Committee to close gaps in available scholarship opportunities within the community. Scholarships awarded will be structured to assist students for multiple years whenever possible.

"This unique fund provides a great opportunity for members of the community to 'pool' their contributions together to impact the lives of future students," says Jacquie Hinds, Chair of the

scholarship committee at The Foundation. "We encourage everyone within the community to make a donation."

The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created by and for the people of San Luis Obispo County to provide local charitable giving. Since 1998, The Community Foundation has awarded more than \$56 million in grants and scholarships to nonprofit partners and local students. The Foundation's charitable assets under management have grown to \$77 million to provide support to all areas of our community in perpetuity. Learn more at <u>https://www.cfsloco.org/</u>.

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