



Community Foundation  
of Morgan County, Inc.  
*Investing in Our Quality of Life*

## **CFMC Awards Non-Traditional Scholarships Worth \$18,500**

May 12, 2010

MORGAN COUNTY, Ind. – Eight Morgan County residents are the recipients of non-traditional scholarships from the Community Foundation of Morgan County worth a total of \$18,500.

Although many of the scholarships offered by the foundation in the past have been exclusively for high school seniors, now nearly 80 percent of the scholarships managed by the foundation are open to applicants beyond high school age. These non-traditional scholarship applicants are non-seniors who are already in college or are returning to school later in life.

“We’ve seen an increasing number of non-traditional scholarship applicants in the past few years,” said Tom Zoss, executive director of the Community Foundation of Morgan County. “There are more and more scholarships available to these students, including two new Asher scholarships which will provide for multiple recipients each year.”

Zoss said that many applicants for these scholarships are returning to school to earn a degree or to change careers as a result of the economy. Others may be just now pursuing their educational dreams due to changing family priorities. Several applicants are also younger students who are sophomores or juniors in college who have found that the majority of scholarships available are for incoming freshmen only.

“The board, staff, and donors of the Community Foundation of Morgan County believe in the value of education, and we are pleased to be able to offer meaningful scholarships to students of all ages and in all stages of life,” Zoss said. “Many of these scholars tell us that without scholarship assistance, their dreams could not become a reality.”

One of the foundation’s scholarships, the Never Too Late Scholarship, is for adults age 30 and over returning to school to pursue a high school diploma, G.E.D., associate’s, bachelor’s, or graduate degree.

Cara Chandler and Jennifer Martin of Martinsville are recipients of the Never Too Late Scholarship for 2010. Chandler will be studying K-12 Building Level Administration at Indiana University. Martin will be studying social work at Ivy Tech. Martin also received the Never Too Late Scholarship for 2009.

Similar to the Never Too Late Scholarship, the Norman E. Whitney Memorial Scholarship offers a scholarship for books and/or tuition for an adult, age 30 or over, who is pursuing a medical career. This year's recipient is Melissa Messmer of Martinsville. Messmer will be studying nursing at Ivy Tech Community College.

Two new scholarships were available for 2010 for both seniors and non-traditional students, made possible by a generous donation from the Estate of Dorothy Asher.

The Dorothy Asher Scholarship provides funds for graduating seniors and adults attending two- or four-year public or private institutions of higher education. Students must major in elementary education and agree to attempt to seek employment, if available, in Morgan County for one year after graduation. This year's non-traditional recipients are Kristin Hilligoss of Camby and Chelsea Scott of Martinsville. Hilligoss is studying health and physical education for grades K-12 at IUPUI. Scott is studying elementary education and reading at IUPUI.

The Newburn-Asher Scholarship provides scholarships for graduating seniors and adults attending two- or four-year public or private institution of higher education and are studying in the health care field. Students must agree to attempt to obtain employment, if available, in Morgan County for one year after graduation.

The Newburn-Asher Scholarship recipients are Rachelle Rose and Jill Perry of Mooresville and Melissa Harris and Melissa Messmer of Martinsville. Rose is studying nursing at St. Joseph's College. Perry is studying respiratory therapy at Ivy Tech Community College. Harris and Messmer will be studying nursing at Ivy Tech Community College.

Several graduating seniors will also receive the Dorothy Asher Scholarship and the Newburn-Asher Scholarship for the coming school year, but those winners will first be announced at high school awards ceremonies.

A scholarship reception for the foundation's non-traditional scholarship winners was held Saturday, May 8 for recipients and their friends and family at the Community Foundation of Morgan County's office.

Information and applications for the 2011 scholarship cycle will be available mid-November of 2010 on the CFMC's Scholarship Central Web site online at [www.cfmconline.org/scholarships](http://www.cfmconline.org/scholarships). Applications will be due in January and February of 2011 based on each scholarship category.

More information on the Community Foundation of Morgan County, Inc. is available online at [www.cfmconline.org](http://www.cfmconline.org) or by calling the foundation locally at (317) 831-1232 or toll-free at (877) 822-6958.