



GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION

**Charitable Activities Committee
2010 Annual Report**

Total Grants Approved in 2010

Funding Principle	Number of Grants	Amount of Funding
Scholarships	28	\$700,000
Post Secondary Education (preparation, access, completion and persistence)	19	\$2,729,800
Math & Science for Post Secondary Readiness	5	\$157,808
Other	3	\$171,000
GTF Educational Grant Program	10	\$58,800
TOTAL	65	\$3,817,408

Total Grants Paid in 2010

Funding Principle	Amount of Funding
Scholarships	\$700,000
Outreach for Higher Education	\$296,867
Improving Math & Science	\$1,851,368.14
Teacher Skill Enhancement/New Teacher Preparation	\$200,559
School-Community Partnerships	\$22,355
Other	\$45,000
Post Secondary Education (preparation, access, completion and persistence)	\$1,051,451
Math & Science for Post Secondary Readiness	\$97,808
TOTAL	\$4,265,408.14

Total Requests Declined in 2010

Type of Request	Number of Declinations	Amount Requested
Letters of Inquiry	22	\$4,126,200
Proposals		
Generation Proud	21	\$525,000
Rising to the Challenge	19	\$475,000
Community College Scholarship Program	6	\$150,000
TOTAL	68	\$5,276,200

Grants Approved in 2010

Scholarships

Generation Proud (8) \$200,000

The Generation Proud Scholarship Program provided assistance to students that were the first generation of their family to attend college. The program was meant to encourage and support first generation college students and provide a total of \$200,000 in need based aid in the 2010-2011 school year. (*Sul Ross, Texas Tech, Tarleton State, TAMU-Corpus Christi, UTEP, UTSA, UTPB, and University of Houston-Clear Lake*)

Rising to the Challenge (8) \$200,000

The foundation's Rising to the Challenge Scholarship Program was meant to encourage and support students making the transition from a community college setting to a four-year institution of higher learning. Rising to the Challenge provided a total of \$200,000 in need based aid in the 2010-2011 school year. (*Sul Ross, Texas Tech, Tarleton State, TAMU-Texarkana, Texas Woman's University, UTPB, University of Houston-Clear Lake, and UNT*)

Community College Scholarship Program (12) \$300,000

The Community College Scholarship Program was developed to meet the unique needs of community college students and continue the foundation's commitment to removing educational barriers to education. The program provided a total of \$300,000 in need based aid in the 2010-2011 school year. (*Brazosport College, Dallas County Community College, Galveston College, Houston Community College, Hill College, Laredo Community College, Lee College, Midland College, North Central Texas College, South Texas College, Northwest Vista College, and South Plains College*)

GTF Educational Matching Grant Program 2010 (10) \$58,800

This program is meant to encourage giving by Greater Texas Foundation officers, board members, committee members, and employees to educational institutions or organizations supporting education. The foundation will match contributions up to \$5,000 on a 2:1 basis. (*Austin College, Bryan ISD, KIPP, Inc., Texas A&M Foundation (3), Texas State University-San Marcos, Tyler Junior College (2), and YES Preparatory Public Schools*)

**Post Secondary Education
(Preparation, Access, Completion and Persistence)**

Achieving the Dream: Texas Board of Trustees Institute (\$333,000)

To support the planning and implementation of a Board of Trustees Institute what will engage the leaders of 20 Texas colleges over three years in activities designed to promote student access and equity (closing achievement gaps) in Texas community colleges. (*The University of Texas at Austin*)

Clint Early College High School (\$453,100 = 50% of total program cost/The Meadows Foundation funded the other 50%)

This grant will contribute to creating a sustainable early college high school in Clint ISD that will yield high performance and provide great promise for current and future generations of Clint students who will graduate with a high school diploma and the opportunity to receive up to 60 hours of college credit or an associate's degree. (*Texas High School Project/Communities Foundation of Texas, Inc.*)

EIF Dallas High School Program Support (\$300,000)

To support a comprehensive, school-based college access program that provides predominately low-income and minority students in the Dallas ISD with guidance, mentoring, personal and professional development training and assistance with college and financial aid and scholarship applications. (*Education is Freedom*)

Enabled for College (\$114,700)

To support a model transition project to prepare high school students with disabilities to access, persist and complete a post secondary education in the Waco and McLennan County area. (*Baylor University*)

Endowed Sul Ross/Rod Pittman '57 Memorial Scholarship (\$25,000)

To provide a scholarship to an outstanding member of the Corps of Cadets in Company D-1. This endowment was established as a memorial to Mr. Rod Pittman, GTF board member, who passed away in 2010. (*Texas A&M Foundation*)

Harris County Pilot Replication Project (\$210,000)

To support the replication and model building of a college access and persistence program at two underserved school districts on the periphery of Greater Houston – Goose Creek and Aldine. (*College Forward*)

Research Project: High Impact Regions for Post Secondary Education (\$150,000)

To support a research study that will focus on access to and completion of post secondary education in the most underserved regions of Texas. (*Texas High School Project/ Communities Foundation of Texas, Inc.*)

Rio Grande Valley Center for Teaching and Leading Excellence

(\$350,000) To support an Investing in Innovation Fund (i3) grant to develop a Center for Teaching and Leading Excellence to recruit, select, onboard, evaluate, reward, support, train and retain teachers and school leaders for IDEA Public Schools, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD and Teach for America in the Rio Grande Valley. GTF was one of six funders who contributed a total of \$3,298,998 in private matching funds in addition to the DOE contribution of \$4,945,988 for a total program cost of \$8,243,998. Other funders included Laura and John Arnold Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Carnegie Foundation, Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, Communities Foundation of Texas, and Kern Family Foundation. (*IDEA Public Schools*)

Science and Technology Educational Partnerships for Success (STEPS) Endowed Scholarship (\$10,000)

The STEPS endowment will be used to provide stipends for juniors and seniors to work up to 20 hours per week in their fields of study under the mentorship of a faculty member. Recipients will be transfer students primarily from Texas State Technical College, South Texas College, and Del Mar College. (*The University of Texas at Brownsville/ Texas Southmost College*)

Texas Expansion of Achieving the Dream (\$665,000)

To provide support for five Texas community colleges to participate in Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count. Colleges participating in ATD use student outcome data to inform decision making about resources and strategies for increasing student performance, retention, and attainment of credentials and degrees particularly among low-income students and students of color. Colleges funded through GTF: Kilgore College, Texarkana College, Tyler Junior College and Western Texas College. (*MDC, Inc.*)

President's Fund (\$19,000)

Through a discretionary fund, grants of \$5,000 or less were authorized by the foundation's president to support post secondary scholarships and academic activities at the following organizations: *The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College (2), Bryan ISD Education Foundation, PAIR, Proyecto Juan Diego, Inc., Texas A&M International University, TAMU-Kingsville, TAMU-Corpus Christi, UT-Pan American, and Donna ISD.*

Math & Science for Post Secondary Readiness

Advanced Mathematical Decision Making: Teacher Professional Development Scholarships (\$25,000)

To support scholarships and travel grants for teachers in small rural school districts to participate in a year of Advanced Mathematical Decision Making professional development and online support for the 2010-2011 school year. (*Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin*)

Expanding the Awareness of UTeach in Texas: UTeach Planning Grants (\$42,808)

To support planning grants for two Texas universities to prepare and implement the UTeach math and science teacher preparation program at their institution. (*The UTeach Institute at The University of Texas at Austin*)

Two (2) UTeach Planning Grants (\$90,000)

Sub-awards to The University of Texas/Texas Southmost College and The University of Texas-Pan American to plan and prepare for the implementation of the UTeach math and science teacher preparation at their institutions. The planning grants provide funding for site visits, UTeach course observations and release salaries for faculty involved in preparing their proposals.

Other

Book Trust at Kemp and College Hills Elementary Schools: Years Three and Four (\$168,000)

Through Book Trust, students at Kemp and College Hills Elementary Schools choose up to \$7 of books monthly from Scholastic Book Clubs catalogs. The program lasts throughout the school year allowing every child to add approximately 20 titles to their home library. (*Book Trust*)

Association/Membership Fees (\$3,000)

(*Grantmakers for Education, Grants Managers Network, Inc.*)

Additional 2010 Initiatives

South Texas Learning Tour

In 2009 Greater Texas Foundation completed a six-month strategic planning process in which the foundation examined current and projected educational needs in Texas and how the foundation's efforts might be best aligned to address them. Through this process, we learned a great deal about the challenges Texas students face on the road to post-secondary completion and how we can focus our efforts to best help students.

To enhance our learning, over the course of four days in April 2010, a group of Greater Texas Foundation staff and directors traveled 1075 miles by van to learn about the educational needs and challenges in South Texas and meet the individuals confronting these challenges. Our learning agenda included questions such as: Who are South Texas students? What are the largest unmet educational needs in the region? What are the largest barriers to post-secondary preparation, access, persistence and completion?

The value of this learning tour was substantial; in particular, traveling together and experiencing first hand the potential impact the foundation can have, with the decision makers who have authority for implementation, was invaluable.

MSI Funders Conference

On October 18-19, The Meadows Foundation, Greater Texas Foundation and Texas High School Project/Communities Foundation of Texas hosted a meeting of national education funders interested in minority-serving institutions at The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College. Foundations in attendance included The Walmart Foundation, Lumina Foundation for Education, The Kresge Foundation, Texas Guaranteed, and USA Funds, all of which represent a larger MSI funders group.

The theme of the two-day meeting was "Hispanic Serving Institutions at the Border of Postsecondary Success for All Students." Through stakeholder panels, facilitated funder discussions, and a campus tour/site visit, the interactive, open dialogue meeting addressed the unique challenges of these minority-serving institutions — including the importance of a strong P-16 pipeline with an emphasis on the high school to college transition. Panels featured several university and community college senior administrators from the region.

Bush School Capstone: Dual Credit Research

GTF engaged a group of second year students at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service for a year-long study of dual credit in the state of Texas. Questions addressed will include the following: How does post-secondary performance of dual credit participants compare to students who didn't participate in dual credit programs? Do certain high schools have dual credit programs with graduates who fare better than those from other programs? Which dual credit models have the best rates of post-secondary enrollment among their graduates? Where in the state are dual credit programs available and not available to GTF's target populations (rural, first generation, low SES, middle class)? Why types of programs are serving the largest proportions of GTF's target populations? How do the outcomes of those programs compare to those of other dual credit programs?

Dollars for Degrees: Two reports highlighting the importance of scholarships and financial aid on student success and post-secondary degree completion

In 2010, Greater Texas Foundation engaged FSG Social Impact Advisors to (1) conduct research on the role of scholarships in Texas higher education and (2) utilize that research to help us redesign our scholarship program. The research resulted in two widely disseminated reports highlighting the importance of scholarships and financial aid on student success and post-secondary degree completion. Both "Dollars for Degrees" reports are available on the foundation's website.

RFP Release: Greater Texas Foundation Scholars

Based on the "Dollars for Degrees" research, the Charitable Activities Committee authorized the development of a GTF signature scholarship program for selected graduates of early college high schools wishing to transfer to a four year institution. On October 5, 2010, the foundation released the *Greater Texas Foundation Scholars: Early College High School Transfer Scholarship & Retention Program* RFP to all private and public four-year institutions of higher education in the state of Texas. As a result of the RFP, the foundation received 14 letters of inquiry. Based on reviews, five institutions were selected to submit full proposals.