

## *A few ideas . . .*

- Get to know your scholars, do things that will interest the both of you
- Take you scholar to lunch or dinner
- Invite them out to enjoy a family event with your family.
- Make a surprise call and check on them
- Send them a card or care package for their birthday, exam time, holiday, or just because.
- Invite them to church or to a social outing
- Touch base with them prior to a JBF event and make sure they are planning to attend
- During the event make a point to spend time with them.

Use the information they provided on their “Favorites” sheet to give you ideas for little surcies (gifts) throughout the year.

## *Become familiar with the app Pinterest*



Looking for creative ideas? Whether you need an idea for a care package or a birthday party in the box explore the endless ideas on Pinterest.

Good ideas start here!

Save ideas on Pinterest. Find surcie ideas & explore articles on trending and recommended topics. You never know what will spark a great gift idea or when inspiration might strike.

Get ideas, be inspired and save your ideas!

Download Pinterest to start exploring possibilities for connecting with your little brother or sister.

Suggested search topics;

\* Gifts Ideas for College Students

\* College/Exam Care Packages

Although the lists are endless ... the most important thing is that you build a relationship with our student scholars.

## *James F. Byrnes Foundation Adopt a Scholar Program*

Touching the lives of scholars ... one at a time !

Many scholars are familiar with the initial Adopt a Scholar program that was established and dissolved many years ago within the foundation.

From conversations with scholars during the late 80's, there was an overwhelming request to re-develop the program.



The Adopt a Scholar program was originally set up for new scholars to be assigned to alumni for a “big sister/brother” relationship. The purpose of the program was to have someone in contact with new Byrnes Scholars providing them support and encouragements throughout their college career and from that many rewarding relationships were formed.

The program was re-introduced in our summer of 2009 newsletter. In the years to follow the new scholar class will be adopted in hopes to have all scholars paired over their four years of college.

This is a volunteer program and alumni scholars will be paired with scholars that they may take a genuine interest in based on where they attend college, their hometown, their current major, their career path, etc.

If you want to adopt a scholar who may not be a first year scholar or if you know a current scholar that is in his / her sophomore, junior, or senior year that you want to adopt that is also an option, remembering it is our first priority to have our new students adopted.

If you are interested in being a Big Sister or Big Brother, please call the Foundation office or respond by email and we can confirm your connection. We will then provide you with basic information about your scholar and a list of their favorite things. It is our hope in years to come to have all current scholar paired with other scholars.

## *Adopt a Scholar Code of Conduct*

Adopt a scholar provides quality mentoring relationships with alumni and current scholars. This relationship can improve the life and college experience of the current scholar. In the interest of the current scholars with the Byrnes Family alumni commit to observing the following codes of conduct.

- Alumni agree to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with their position as a positive role model to the scholar and as a representative of the foundations.
- Alumni agree to respect the privacy and dignity of the scholar by not divulging confidential information without consent, expect where in the case the Foundation Board needs to know.
- Alumni agree to limit their involvement to what is deemed appropriate by the foundation. To be seen as a positive influence, a person of support and not dominate factor in the scholars' life.
- Alumni are not to take on any financial responsibilities of the scholar's.
- The relationship is based on mutual respect. Both agreeing to develop the friendship at their own pace.
- If the Alumni is married, then both the Alumni and his/her spouse agree to adopt the Scholar or when discussed with the Foundation Secretary.
- Alumni are required to discuss problems, issues, concerns or changes in circumstances (living situations, changes in demeanor, etc.) with the Foundation Secretary.
- If the scholar has a need that the Alumni cannot meet please notify the Foundation Secretary and the need will be shared with the Maude's' Angels Network and or the Foundation Board.
- In the event the relationship between the Alumni and the Scholar needs to be terminated that can be done at any time, at the request of either party.

## *Guidelines*

### **Who can adopt?**

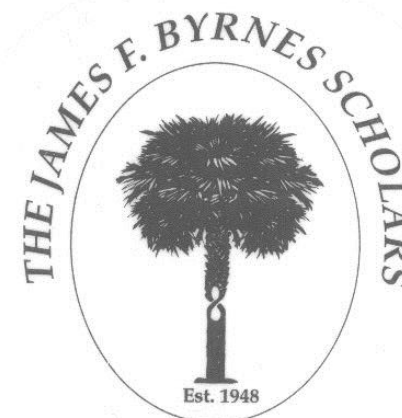
Active James F. Byrnes Scholars and approved friends of the Foundation.

### **Which scholars can be adopted?**

The options are open, however, our first priority is to have our new scholars adopted and then any other current scholars who many not be assigned.

### **How are assignments made?**

It is important that there is a connection within major of study, career and or other interest. It is our preference that the Big brother / sister live in the area in which the scholar attends school. However, it has been proven with technology, social media, and opportunities for travel, our Little Brothers/Sisters do not have to live in the city or state as our alumni scholar in order for our program to be successful.



*United by Loss – Bound by Love*

### **Adopt a Scholar Relationship**

To avoid any misunderstandings Alumni/ scholars pairs are not to be of opposite gender. Unless, the spouse of the scholar is invested in the Foundation and will serve as the primary Big brother or sister.

### **How do I adopt?**

Contact the Executive Secretary of the Foundation and you will be matched with a scholar upon which the scholar will be notified and you will receive basic information about the scholar.

### **Questions**

If there are questions or concerns about our Adopt a Scholar program, contact our Foundation Secretary at 803.254.9325