

WELCOME TO THE HUNTER FAMILY FOUNDATION

Newsletter

Our Endeavors to Help Others Do Well

A Word from Our CEO

With a grateful heart, I am proud to share the very first recipients of the Hunter Family Foundation Compass Scholarships!

Guided by Howard Thurman's call to stand with those whose "backs are against the wall," we designed this flagship scholarship in October 2025 to make a meaningful difference in the lives of current college students who are working hard to continue their education, often while carrying significant financial and personal burdens. To broaden our reach, we also published the opportunity on Bold.org, helping students discover additional scholarships they may be eligible for. When applications opened on the MLK Holiday, the response was immense: more than 100 students from the Chicago metro area applied, reminding us just how urgent this work is—especially as recent cutbacks to college funding and limits on student and parent loans place even more pressure on families.

After the Compass Scholarship application closed, our team used an objective scoring rubric to evaluate each submission. But as we read the students' essays, the process became deeply personal. Their stories made the need impossible to ignore, and narrowing the pool to 10 finalists was difficult. We wanted to do more. Thanks to your donations, we had already raised enough during the fundraising campaign to grow our original plan from one \$2,000 scholarship to two \$2,500 awards. Even then, we wished we could support every finalist. We are honored to celebrate this year's two recipients, Jaylen and Coura, and we are praying for their continued growth and success, as they pursue their degrees and build the thriving futures they deserve.

Finally, our team will meet soon to begin planning to do more in 2027 and beyond. We will discuss continuing partnerships and programs like the GAP Scholarship, and Degrees Matter Campaign. And we will do all that with a sense of gratitude for all of you who help us help others do well.

Peace.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellery H. Hunter".

Ellery H. Hunter, CEO

The Hunter Family Foundation Compass Scholarships

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our inaugural Compass Scholarships!

We created this scholarship to support Black students facing financial challenges that could otherwise keep them from completing their education.

It's designed to help them stay the course and continue moving toward their degrees.

With the generous support of our donors, we were able to award two students with \$2,500, each, to further their educational pursuit towards a bachelors degree.

Learn more about each of our awardees below.

Inaugural Awardees

JAYLEN SPEIGHT

Major: Education

Hometown: Gary, IN

Community Impact: I am defined by my growth, my discipline, and my purpose. I am not just earning a degree—I am preparing to break a cycle. I am becoming the advocate I once needed.

"I truly admire the Hunter Family Foundation's dedication to bridging the gaps in higher education and supporting students through such meaningful partnerships. Your willingness to invest in my future inspires me to give back and make a positive impact on every student I encounter."





COURA MALCOLM

Major: Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Community Impact: My interests span far and wide, but the common denominator is my objective to make a ferocious difference in the world around me.

"Thank you for your dedication to uplifting students and for your belief in the value of higher education. With your help, I feel more confident about my future and look forward to one day giving back to others as you've given to me."

The Hunter Family Foundation wants to thank all of the applicants for taking time to apply. We were moved by the **113 scholars** sharing their personal stories and plans for using the knowledge they gain through their studies to directly give back to their communities. The future truly is bright!

WHY THIS SCHOLARSHIP MATTERS:

Because Communities Need More Young Leaders

Because Potential Shouldn't Be Limited by Circumstance

Because One Graduate Can Change Many Lives

Because Investing in Students Is Investing in the Future

The stories we celebrate today are a powerful reminder of what becomes possible when a community chooses to invest in potential. By supporting the Hunter Family Foundation's Compass Scholarship, you become part of a mission to remove barriers, expand opportunities, and empower future leaders to keep moving forward. Your generosity helps ensure that more students have the encouragement and support they need to reach the finish line. Together, we can create lasting impact—one scholar, one degree, and one brighter future at a time.

SUPPORT TODAY

DONATE TO THE HUNTER FAMILY FOUNDATION

& support our efforts to help others do well through scholarships like this, intentional community partnerships and more.

Hunter Family Foundation Look Ahead

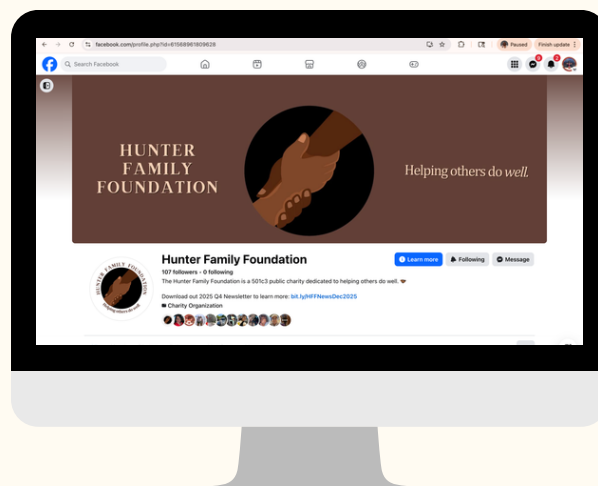
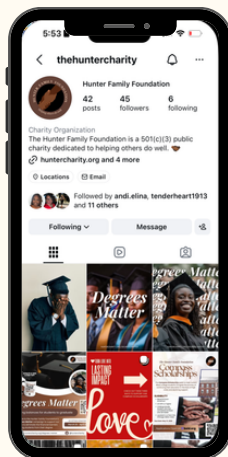
WE'RE COMMITTED TO CONTINUING THE WORK



BACK TO SCHOOL TIME

As we reflect on our endeavors to do well for students this past school year, we are grateful to have not only sustained our existing opportunities but expanded with our inaugural general scholarship. This upcoming 2026-2027 school year, we will continue our work supporting students through our Calumet College of St. Joseph G.A.P. Scholarship, financial aid opportunities with community partners, our *Degrees Matter* campaign, and our second year of the Compass Scholarship.

Help us spread the word and connect with others in need!



Stay Connected!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR TIMELY UPDATES

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| huntercharity.org | info@huntercharity.org |