

Building A Better World Scholarship

Now a 501 c-3 Non Profit Organization



We started our Scholarship back in 2003. Three \$300 awards. Since that time we've grown tremendously. The *Oakridge Education Association* and *Oakridge Parent Club* are now co-sponsors. Dozens of local businesses, teachers and parents and community members donate. Many Oakridge graduates have joined us. And last year over twenty previous winners wrote a donation check. We've recently achieved 501 c-3 non-profit status. In 2018, we awarded \$2000 each to four OHS graduates. Our goal is \$9000 in 2019.

We've come a long ways baby...but at our core we are still what we were in the beginning. Three scholarships for three Oakridge High School graduates. Two of the awards concentrate on student philosophy and life plans in regards to **1-Global Awareness** and **2-Community Involvement**. Students write essays assessing the significance of each, in creating a more just and compassionate society. The winners earn a college scholarship for their efforts. Our third award revolves around **3-Independent Travel**. How does travel make you a better global citizen? Write an essay. Lay out a personal road trip. Tie the journey into your travel philosophy. Plan it. Map it. Itemize your costs. Our scholarship will reimburse the winner's trip up to the dollar amount of the other scholarships. Our only requirement - send us a postcard.

Our scholarship has sent OHS grads off to college all over the USA - American University in Washington D.C., Western and Central and Northern Michigan, MCC and U of M. Our independent travelers have combed the globe; a journey to visit foreign exchange friends in Thailand, a search for adoption roots in China, and a trip with grandma to a rural village in the Philippines, as well as road trips East to Boston and New York City, and West to the Grand Canyon, Portland, and Montana. **For a rural high school in a low income community- 100% Free Lunch - these kinds of opportunities can be ground breaking. Our scholarship changes lives.**

Federal Tax ID# 82-2399098

What exactly does 501 c-3 Non Profit Status mean? For Us - For You?

- **Tax Deduction** - Your donation is now fully tax deductible on your personal 1040 tax form.
- **Business Tax Deductions** - Small Businesses and Corporations may now donate directly to our scholarship and provide donation options to their employees. All of this is tax deductible.
- **Early College Students and Promise Scholarship Winners** - BBW will hold scholarships of *Early College Students* and *Muskegon Promise Scholarship* winners until they move onto their next collegiate stop. Without non profit status these kids would not be able to recoup the benefits of both scholarships.
- **Scholarship Aid Displacement** - Many universities practice Scholarship Aid Displacement; not in the students best interest. At such places, scholarships like ours, when added to a student's financial aid package, reduces the school's grant total by an equal amount; students attending such institutions would not benefit financially from our Scholarship. Being a non-profit, if a school employs such a practice, we can issue a scholarship check directly to the student, ensuring that they receive full financial benefits.
- **Checks** - Donation checks must now be made out to *Building A Better World Scholarship* instead of to *Oakridge High School*.
- **Donations** - Donations, cash or check, may still be dropped off, or mailed to **Oakridge High School- 5493 East Hall Road - Muskegon, MI 49442 - c/o Bob Wood - or you may donate online at our website.**

buildingabetterworld.net

Building A Better World Scholarship is currently incorporated at Chase Bank in Grand Haven, Michigan 49417. Our Board of Directors is made up of four current Oakridge School District teachers (Bob Wood, Kelly Carlson, Kim Wolcott, and Alicia Parker) a retired OSD teacher (Pat Schroeder) and three past Scholarship Winners - (Jordan "Holter" Milham (2007), Dominique "Jessen" Bunker (2014), and Paula Shay (2015).

Please contact Bob Wood bobwoodmsu@gmail.com, Pat Schroeder pschroed5@aol.com, Jordan Milham jordan.holter@gmail.com, or Kelly Carlson kellycarlson55@comcast.net for further information. Thank you for taking a look...we hope to have you on board :)

2010



Please go to our Website at buildingabetterworld.net for further Information



2016



2014



2007



2015

*Building
A Better World
thru the years...*

since 2003
52 scholarships &
over \$72,000



2015



2003



2009

*Together
we can...*