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Paul and Patricia Strickler Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Fund

CARLISLE, PA (date) - United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County and its early childhood initiative, Success By 6, are pleased to announce the Paul and Patricia Strickler Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship Fund. A recent donation in the amount of \$10,000 provided the funding to award the first two families with 50% tuition assistance for their children to attend a high quality preschool program for the 2022-2023 school year. United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County and Success By 6 advocate for high quality preschool programming for all children. The Paul and Patricia Strickler Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship, honors two long time volunteers of United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County and Success By 6.

“This community has been good to me. I’ve always felt I should give back to it.” This simple statement describes one of United Way’s most dedicated volunteers, Paul Strickler. Paul Strickler, served for six years as a United Way board member including as president of the board in 1975. He became the campaign co-chair in 1990 and served on the endowment fund and planned giving committees from 2001 through 2007 and as president of that fund in 2003 and 2004. In 1998, under his leadership, the endowment fund successfully raised over \$600,000. Paul was honored for his volunteer efforts, receiving the United Way Volunteer of the Year Award in 1993. Many other community organizations have benefited from Paul’s volunteer service; American Red Cross, YMCA of Carlisle, Bosler Memorial Library, Steven’s Center, Cumberland County Historical Society, Leadership Carlisle, The Salvation Army and as Trustee of Dickinson College to name just a few. Paul Strickler passed away on October 20, 2021.

Karen Quinn, Director of Success By 6, describes Patricia Strickler as “a fierce advocate for children and for early childhood education.” Her volunteer efforts on behalf of the United Way and Success By 6 demonstrate this advocacy over and over again. More than 20 years ago, she researched the state of child care in the local area including the availability of programming for children, the oversight and quality of childcare centers, and the quality of staff training. As a result, she began advocating for Success By 6 to become an initiative of United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County and served as the first chairperson of the Success By 6 Advisory Board more than 20 years ago. She helped to bring child care certification courses to the local area and educated business leaders on the importance of quality child care and early education for

children. She was a co-chair for the residential division of the United Way's annual campaign, and served as a United Way board member from 2011 to 2013. Patricia has been honored several

times for her volunteer efforts including receiving the Larry Gillaugh Award in 1997, United Way Volunteer of the Year Award in 2002 and Success By 6 Children's Advocate Award in 2008. She has also been honored by Leadership Cumberland with the June L Shoemaker Award for outstanding board service. Patricia still serves today as the co-chair of Success By 6 Advisory Board and as a member of our Success By 6 School Readiness Team.

The Alexis de Tocqueville Humanitarian Award was established to recognize outstanding volunteer service to the community. It is the highest award given by any United Way. The name was chosen to honor the 19th century Parisian who studied American society and politics and recognized the altruism of Americans and our willingness to help and support mankind. Both Paul and Patricia Strickler were recipients of this award in 2000 and 2008, respectively.

To donate to the Paul and Patricia Strickler Scholarship Fund go to: uwcarlisle.org/donate/ Click "make secure donation". Include the scholarship name in special instructions. To donate via check, make check payable to United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County. Write the scholarship name on the memo line of the check. Mail or deliver check to United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County at 145 S. Hanover Street, Carlisle, PA 17013.

The Paul and Patricia Strickler Pre-Kindergarten Scholarship provides 50% tuition assistance to families whose children are between three and six years of age, are enrolled in a PA Keystone Star 3 or Star 4 preschool program, and whose preschool center is approved by Success By 6 to receive these funds. The application process begins July 1 of each year. To learn more go to www.uwcarlisle.org or contact Karen Quinn at 717-243-4805.

The mission of United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County is to unite people and resources to build a strong, healthier Carlisle & Cumberland County. Success By 6 works to ensure that all children are ready to success by the time they enter kindergarten. To learn more about United Way and Success By 6 go to www.uwcarlisle.org or call 717.243.4805.