



October 19, 2022

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are thrilled to share with you a project that is near and dear to our hearts. The Family First Scholarship was founded by Christopher West and Mike Lofton. This fund is held by The Family First Scholarship Fund, a 5013c non-profit that began in 2020. The fund's mission is to help family members, mainly children of fallen or disabled combat veterans, complete their college education by providing much-needed financial assistance to eligible Arizona State University (ASU) students.

*“I am incredibly grateful to have been selected for the Family First Scholarship. This scholarship will allow me to focus on my education and put my energy into doing well in my classes. I will be able to continue pursuing my degree without worrying about any potential financial impact on my family.” - Polly Ann Aitken, ASU student & FFS*

With great joy, we can proudly say that, in just a few short years since its origination in 2020, more than fifty (50) ASU students from military families have been awarded the Family First Scholarship. Thanks to our generous donors, these students were given the chance to turn tragedy into triumph, by returning to or continuing their scholastic efforts at ASU. Our scholarship recipients are now pursuing life-long dreams of graduating from college, despite the devastating repercussions of war.

This year, we're determined to offer more financial assistance to these ASU students whose parent(s) have become disabled or fallen in combat. With patriotic supporters like you, we know it can be done. As a donor, you will seize an opportunity to change the trajectory of a military family's life with one donation. With the beginning of the 2022/23 school year, we've also begun efforts to build our scholarship fund and make it more robust and impactful for our recipients.

Please mark your calendars for our inaugural Family First Benefit Dinner, planned for early 2023, we will send out more information very soon and look forward to seeing you at this unforgettable evening of fine food, craft drinks, cigars, and great company, all in the name of supporting, inspiring, and enriching the lives of our ASU scholarship students.

We're so excited about this year's scholarship recipients. They are amazing individuals whom we've come to know personally through months of interviews and conversations. They are sons, daughters, mothers, wives, sisters, and brothers. We'd like nothing more than for you to get to know them too, so we've attached a few of their stories to this email. More stories about this year's students will be sent to you throughout the school year, so you too can see their progress and cheer them on.

We're so grateful for you, our amazing supporters. We're passionate and honored to do this work and feel so blessed to have you supporting us. To give generously today, please visit [FamilyFirstScholarship.com](http://FamilyFirstScholarship.com)

Highest Regards,

Chris & Mike