



# Write A Prisoner

## Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship Fund

*Children of Inmates Scholarship/Children as Victims Scholarship*

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

#### HISTORY

In 2010, Write A Prisoner established the Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship Fund, a very important scholarship program to benefit the children of inmates and the children who have been victimized by crime (either themselves or a member of their immediate family). The Children of Inmates Scholarship Fund and the Children as Victims Scholarship Fund will award annual scholarships to students who are pursuing a college education.

Through no fault of their own, there are many children whose life experiences place their educational opportunities in jeopardy. These are children who have had a parent incarcerated, an event that can produce many negative consequences for the children including poverty. These are also children who have been the victim of a crime or whose immediate family members have been crime victims. This, too, can be a life-altering event, which can also produce many negative consequences.

#### PURPOSE

While our primary goal has always been to reduce recidivism, we also recognize the importance of prevention – preventing citizens from a life of crime and incarceration. The scholarship program emphasizes this aspect of prevention. Education is a critical step toward a crime-free life.

Children are our greatest resource. They are also at the mercy of all of the adults in their lives. We believe it is our duty as responsible adults to invest in the future of children, especially those whose life circumstances have put their futures at risk. We believe in the Latin concept of *reversisco* – the ability to flourish through adversity. We already know these children are survivors – now it is up to us to help them flourish.

Scholarships are awarded in varying amounts, beginning with a \$250 scholarship toward a two- or four-year educational institution, and increase from there. Together, we can help many children. If you know someone who might benefit from this program, please share this information.

#### ELIGIBILITY

Applicants for the *Children of Inmates Scholarship* and the *Children as Victims Scholarship* must:

- ◆ Must be 18 to apply or have application completed by someone age 18 or older.
- ◆ Be impacted by crime; either as a child of an inmate or victimized by crime- either themselves or a member of their immediate family.
- ◆ Maintain a 2.5 GPA or provide documentation explaining circumstances if GPA is lower than 2.5.
- ◆ Submit application packet in its entirety. (See page 3 for complete packet checklist.)



Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship

# Write A Prisoner Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship Fund *Children of Inmates Scholarship/Children as Victims Scholarship*

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

You must be 18 years of age or older to apply. If you are under 18, you may have this application completed on your behalf by someone age 18 or older. Please type or print neatly in blue or black ink. Please submit your completed application along with academic transcript, letter of recommendation, documentation verifying eligibility, your personal essay, and explanation of GPA (if lower than 2.5) between March 1<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> to Write A Prisoner Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 10-S Edgewater, FL 32132.

### SECTION 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name (last, first, middle initial):

Gender:

Ethnicity:

Date of Birth:

□□ - □□ - □□□□

Home Address (street address):

City:

State:

ZIP:

Home Phone:

□□□□ - □□□□ - □□□□□□

Cell Phone:

□□□□ - □□□□ - □□□□□□

### SECTION 2: SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

**Are you the child of an inmate, either currently or formerly incarcerated?**  Yes  No

If so, please provide documentation that can be verified.

**Are you the victim of a crime, or was someone in your immediate family the victim of a crime?**  Yes  No

If so, please provide documentation that can be verified.

### SECTION 3: SCHOOL INFORMATION

High School Attended:

High School Address (street address):

City:

State:

ZIP:

Graduation Date:

□□ - □□ - □□□□□□

Current GPA:

If lower than 2.5, please provide letter of explanation.

College/University you plan to attend or are attending:

### SECTION 4: SIGN AND DATE

**I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurate.**

Submitter's Signature:

Date:

□□ - □□ - □□□□□□



Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship

## Write A Prisoner Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship Fund *Children of Inmates Scholarship/Children as Victims Scholarship*

### REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

#### CHECKLIST (Must be 18 to apply or have application completed by someone age 18 or older)

Thank you for applying to the Write A Prisoner Children Impacted by Crime Scholarship Program. Your complete packet should contain the following items:

- Completed Application**  
Application must be completed in its entirety. Applications may be typewritten or neatly printed in blue or black ink. Please do not forget to sign and date the application.
- Academic Transcript**  
Please submit your most recent transcript along with your application (high school or college). Transcript must be original and official. No photocopies will be accepted. Transcripts do not need to be sealed. We will not accept web-based or email transcripts.
- Letter of Recommendation**  
Your letter of recommendation must be from a teacher or counselor and dated within the last 3 months from the date of application submission. The recommendation must include your teacher or counselor's contact information including his/her school telephone number.
- Documentation Verifying Eligibility**  
Please provide verifiable documentation that you have been impacted by crime. Documentation may come in one of several formats, such as current incarceration information from the governing agency, parole information, newspaper article, letter from parent, etc. This documentation will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
- Your Personal Essay**  
Your personal essay should include a brief explanation regarding your eligibility for this scholarship, as well as a thorough explanation of your educational goals and how you plan to use your education for the greater good of society. Your essay may not exceed one page and should be typewritten and double spaced in 12 point font.
- Explanation of GPA if Lower than 2.5**  
We understand that through no fault of your own, your GPA may not reflect your potential. If your GPA is lower than 2.5, please provide a letter of explanation. This may include employment held during high school, absences related to crime/incarceration, caring for siblings, etc. If your GPA is higher than 2.5, you may include a letter outlining extracurricular activities, employment, etc., but it is not required.

#### SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

- 1) Please be sure to include all required information in your application packet (see checklist above.) Incomplete packets will not be accepted.
- 2) Do not staple the pages included in your packet. Packets may either be paper clipped or submitted as loose pages.
- 3) Please be sure your full name appears on every page of your packet.
- 4) We will not accept email or web-based application submissions. Please mail completed application packet to:  

Write A Prisoner Scholarship Program  
P.O. Box 10-S  
Edgewater, FL 32132
- 5) Scholarship applications must be submitted between March 1 and June 1. Scholarship recipients will be notified by July 1. Awards will be mailed by August 1. Scholarships submitted before March 1 or after June 1 will not be considered.