



Tamassee Salem Elementary (TSE) Challenge to be Great Scholarship

Keowee Falls Cliffs Residents Outreach (Keowee Falls CRO) is a community Advisory Council within Cliffs Residents Outreach, Inc. (CRO), a 501.c.3, dedicated to enabling Upstate SC children to succeed.

Keowee Falls CRO established the TSE Challenge to be Great Scholarship to provide a \$1,000 scholarship for the benefit eligible students from the 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 cohort of TSE 5th graders (30-40 students each year) who are expected to successfully graduate from Walhalla High School in 2029, 2030, 2031, and 2032 and who also successfully gain acceptance at an accredited post-secondary educational institution.

- Purpose of this Initiative: Challenge students to believe that they can achieve greatness by graduating from high school and pursuing higher education/job-readiness training.
- Eligibility: 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 TSE 5th graders who attend Walhalla Middle School, meet eligibility requirements for graduating from Walhalla High School who are then accepted at an accredited post-secondary school.
- The \$1,000 scholarship will be issued to the institution where the student is accepted, to benefit the specific student, and funds will cover the legitimate expenses routinely eligible through typical academic scholarships.
- Partnership: An important component of this scholarship is the interaction that will result with the *TSE Challenge to be Great Committee*. The Committee will meet with each student at the completion of each semester to discuss attendance, academic growth, the growth of the scholarship fund and the importance of education. These discussions will be key for students who may not otherwise be challenged to believe that they can, and should, plan to graduate and pursue higher education/job-readiness training.
- The Oconee County School District committed to assign the appropriate representation to the ***TSE Challenge to be Great Committee (the Committee)*** responsible for overseeing this. This is expected to be a Superintendent from TSE, and the Superintendent and Guidance Counselor from Walhalla Middle and High School, as appropriate depending on the progression of these students. This initiative supports the 2022 Wahalla High School goal of increasing the percentage of graduates who are college and career ready to 90%.
- A representative from Keowee Falls CRO will participate as a member of the Committee to track progress and recommend additional support (resources) to the Committee.
- Keowee Falls CRO invested funds with the FCF to allow those funds to grow through the Foundation's investment strategies. FCF will also administer the scholarship awards.
- Distributions of the Fund will be made by the FCF Scholarship Committee (based on the recommendations by the Keowee Falls CRO Committee representative) to approved educational institutions where students verified by the Walhalla High School Guidance Counselors based on criteria stated above have been accepted for their freshman year of post-secondary education.

For additional information about Cliffs Residents Outreach, Inc (CRO): www.crocommunities.com