

STEDMAN W. SMITH, JR. BEQUEST PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WICOMICO COUNTY STUDENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Esther M. Smith Scholarship to benefit students with disabilities

A bequest from the estate of Stedman W. Smith, Jr. has established a new scholarship fund at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore that makes an annual \$2,000 scholarship available to graduating seniors in public high schools in Wicomico County that have a disability as accepted and defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Students eligible to apply for the Esther M. Smith Scholarship must be pursuing an academic degree and have been accepted at an accredited college or university, or accredited two-year educational or vocational institution. Applicants must be nominated by their school's principal, guidance counselor or teacher and have maintained a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher.

Applicants will be required to write a two page essay about their personal character and what they plan to do with their post secondary education or training. Applicants may be required to be interviewed by a Scholarship Advisory Committee comprised of members of the Disabilities Advocates of Delmarva, Inc.

The deadline for submission of applications for the scholarship award is April 15th. The award is made possible from grants through the Esther M. Smith Fund at the Community Foundation. For more information and a scholarship application form contact B.J. Summers at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore at 410-742-9911.

The Community Foundation manages over 80 endowed scholarship funds and during fiscal year 2005 awarded \$125,415 in scholarships to local students.

More information about the Foundation's endowment funds and other services to nonprofit organizations and charitable giving opportunities may be found on this website or by calling the Foundation office at (410) 742-9911.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Gee Williams 410-742-9911**