

Some kids
never hear

“**you can
go to
college.**”

At Marin Education Fund,
we say it all the time.

2008 | ANNUAL
REPORT

YOU CAN

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At Marin Education Fund we believe that everyone should have a chance at college. Without the benefit of an adult who believes in them, many students will never reach for higher education. At Marin Education Fund they find the tools and relationships to make college a reality.

waster?/ short trim

Over 19,000 Marin students have gone to college thanks to generous gifts to Marin Education Fund.





Dear Friends,

On behalf of Marin Education Fund's Board of Directors, we are proud to share our 2008 Annual Report with you. It was truly a terrific year!

The 2008 report is filled with the names of people, corporations and foundations who have acted on their kindest and wisest inclinations. On behalf of the students whose lives you changed forever, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

This year, we focus on a story about a young man and his mentor. Students light up when they talk about the importance of someone who believes in them. "Just having someone I could talk to who cared about me and who wanted to see me go to college" and "someone who believed that I could do it" means everything to our students. For many, it is the difference between going to college or not. This year, we share a story about Kaleb, a remarkable young man of whom we are all extremely proud.

We also celebrate the many people that our programs have touched. We celebrate their dreams and aspirations and, their triumphs:

- **90%** of our scholarship recipients graduate from college.
- **100%** of the Summer Application Institute Class of 2006 just completed their first year of college.
- **100%** of the Summer Application Institute Class of 2007 just went off to college.
- **553 scholarships** were awarded in 2008.
- More than **1,400** students and families received college and financial aid planning.

As this Annual Report attests, our financial position is strong. We still face very real and significant funding challenges, and the need for scholarships and student support is greater now than ever.

At Marin Education Fund, we are about hope and opportunity. You will hear from us in the coming months about students, opportunities to help, and about a major event on May 7, 2009—Marin's own Scholarship Night! Please mark your calendar now.

Thank you for your continued support of Marin Education Fund. You are making an important difference.

Warmest regards,

DENISE LUCY
Board Chair

KIM MAZZUCA
President

MARIN
COUNTY
YOUTH

THE LAUREL SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY

These donors have made a commitment of at least \$5,000 a year for four years to fund a college education for one or more students.

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continued

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Building the Confidence to Succeed: Kaleb Lawson and Fred Barson

At first glance, Fred Barson and Kaleb Lawson seem to come from two completely different worlds: one a 68-year-old white marketing consultant from San Rafael, the other a young African-American from Marin City who sometimes struggled to find his place in high school. But the unique relationship the two formed through Marin Education Fund has launched Kaleb on the path to success, helping him to achieve his goal of a college degree.

In high school, Kaleb always dreamed of working in education. He earned good grades at the Marin School of Arts and Technology, worked at a youth center and got involved in environmental activism. Yet college still seemed like a distant fantasy. Few of his friends planned to attend. His mother Rachelle, who works for the Marin Housing Authority, was fiercely supportive but hadn't gone to college herself and knew little about the application process. Kaleb played with the idea of community college, but assumed a four-year school was out of reach.

"I didn't think I could get in, and if I got in I didn't think I could afford it," he says.

90% of Marin Education Fund students graduate from college, compared to the national average of 58%



All that changed when Kaleb attended Marin Education Fund's Summer Application Institute and was matched with his mentor, Fred.

Fred's first impression of Kaleb was of a tall, shy 16-year-old who was smart and dedicated but lacked information about the college application process and needed a boost in self-esteem. "Kaleb just needed to believe in himself," says Fred, who joined Marin Education Fund as a way to give back to his community. "I kept telling him he could do it and he kept saying OK and came back with higher goals every time I saw him."

Together the two made a list of schools that Kaleb would target. Fred, a former writing instructor, helped Kaleb develop his application essay. Kaleb was soon accepted to St. Mary's, his first choice. A scholarship from Marin Education Fund helps pay his tuition.

"Fred and the other people at Marin Education Fund boosted my confidence

and showed me I shouldn't settle for less," he says. "The things they taught me about financial aid and how to navigate school, I still take with me every day."

A sociology major, Kaleb also works in his school's admissions office, doing outreach to other minority students. After

graduation, he hopes to attend law school and work in education policy. "Kids have to go to college to move up in society," he says. "I want to help change the system so that goal is more attainable for low income and first generation students."

For Fred, Kaleb's story is a perfect example of the lasting impact

Marin Education Fund has on the local community, and the power of our belief that everyone should have a chance at college. "Here is a guy who has a tremendous social conscience and is already using what he has learned to help other students like him," he says. "What more could we ask for?"

“Marin Education Fund boosted my confidence and showed me I shouldn't settle for less.”

KALEB & FRED



A Proven Model for College Success

Marin Education Fund donors supported programs and scholarships in 2008 that meant the difference between going off to college this fall or deferring education, perhaps forever, for hundreds of students.

“**Everyone
should
have a
chance at
college.**”

—Kim Mazzuca,
Marin Education
Fund president

- **College Bound** takes middle-schoolers to college with day tours to Bay Area campuses.
- **The Summer Application Institute** allows 50-60 students each year to live in a dorm on the Dominican University campus, taking workshops on everything from taking the SATs to how to file for financial aid.
- **Mentors** pair with students in their senior year of high school, helping them and their families navigate the college application process, financial aid, and surviving the first year of college.
- **553 students** received scholarships in 2008 from Marin Education Fund for use this fall.
- On average, **over \$13,000** in additional scholarship support is leveraged for each student who receives a Marin Education Fund scholarship.

More than 1,900 talented, low-income high school students
in Marin County need your help to get to college.

1,900

MARIN EDUCATION FUND DONORS: INDIVIDUALS *continued*

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Ways to Give

Since 1981, donors to Marin Education Fund have helped provide college access programs, scholarships, and support to students of all ages who are in need. The low-income and traditionally underrepresented students who receive support from Marin Education Fund are frequently the first generation of their family to go to college. Here are a few ways to make a gift.



THE OPPORTUNITY FUND

Gifts to the Opportunity Fund annual campaign are awarded as scholarships in the same year they are given. Donors can make gifts by check, credit card, or by donating securities. All donors are recognized in the Annual Report.

Beginning in 2009, donors of \$150 or more will be recognized in the annual report as members of The Friends of Marin Education Fund.

THE LAUREL SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY

Membership in The Laurel Scholarship Society is contingent on a commitment of \$5,000 or more per year for four years. Each year, the gift is awarded as a scholarship to one or two students. The four-year commitment guarantees that a student will have funding for his or her entire college career, if all academic conditions are met.

CASH

For many donors, this is the simplest way to donate. Cash gifts provide a charitable deduction in the year they are given. They can be made as one-time contributions or in installments as payments toward a pledge. Cash gifts can be paid via check or credit card, and can also be made by going to our website, www.MarinEducationFund.org, and clicking on “Donate Now.”

GIFTS OF STOCK

A gift of appreciated securities entitles you to a charitable deduction equal to the fair market value of the securities without paying tax on the securities’ appreciation. To make a gift of stock, please contact the Director of Development at (415) 451-4009.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many companies offer matching gifts to their employees’ donations. Ask your company’s personnel office for more information on directing a matching gift to Marin Education Fund.

PLANNED GIFTS

Planned gifts from donors’ wills and trusts can provide a current charitable deduction in addition to income for your lifetime. The income can be distributed to you, the donor, your spouse or other designee, after which the assets would be distributed to the Marin Education Fund. Institutions can achieve stability and growth through planned giving. Contact your tax advisor for specific information that relates to your particular circumstances.

LIFE INSURANCE

A gift of a paid-up life insurance policy can provide a tax deduction to the donor and a significant gift to the Marin Education Fund. Life insurance premiums are tax deductible if the Marin Education Fund is designated as the owner and the beneficiary of the policy.

GIFTS IN KIND

Marin Education Fund welcomes donations such as computers, graphing calculators, classroom supplies, and other items related to our programs. The Development Office will be happy to help you determine the acceptability of gifts. Gift value will be determined by the donor through appraisal or record of purchase. Marin Education Fund does not assign value to used items.

MULTI-YEAR PLEDGES FOR MAJOR GIFTS

Pledges can be paid over several years. In other words, a donor can pledge a gift in one year, but can take several years to complete the fulfillment of that pledge.

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Fiscal Year Ended	6/30/08	6/30/07
ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	1,573,836	1,099,247
Short-Term investment	106,805	104,399
Grants & contributions receivable	303,525	322,623
Beneficial Interest in assets held by Marin Community Foundation	1,202,151	1,171,121
Prepaid expenses, deposits and other assets.....	77,863	67,557
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net	61,331	70,777
TOTAL ASSETS	3,325,511	2,835,724
LIABILITIES		
Scholarships payable.....	169,591	130,500
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities.....	240,074	183,347
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	409,665	313,847
NET ASSETS.....	2,915,846	2,521,877
TOTAL LIABILITES AND NET ASSETS.....	3,325,511	2,835,724

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

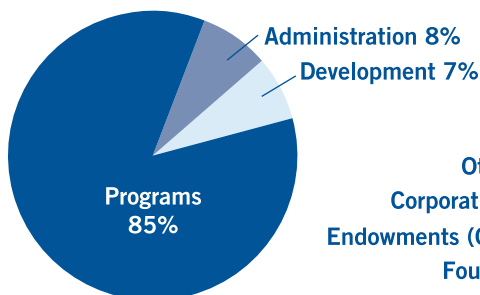
REVENUES

Marin Community Foundation—Buck Trust	1,820,000	2,100,000
Childcare Scholarship Fund	436,743	416,600
Contributions	1,259,597	990,668
Other Revenue.....	42,602	284,001
TOTAL REVENUE	3,558,942	3,791,269

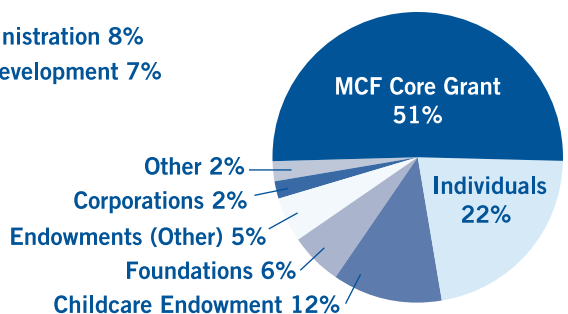
EXPENSES

Scholarships, net	1,663,296	2,086,857
Programs.....	1,031,062	930,804
Administrative.....	265,053	246,466
Development	205,562	515,449
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	3,164,973	3,779,576
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	393,969	11,693

EXPENSES



REVENUES



MARIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Marin Education Fund is affiliated with and receives major funding from the Marin Community Foundation.

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100%
100% of your donation goes directly
to scholarships and programs.



Please save the date for
Scholarship Night

May 7, 2009

A festive good time celebrating the students, volunteers, and donors of Marin Education Fund. Sponsorships are available at www.MarinEducationFund.org

**“You have provided me with the
motivation to continue with school.
It is encouraging to know there are
people who believe in me.”**

—Mayra R., St. Mary's College sophomore

MARIN EDUCATION FUND
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www.MarinEducationFund.org
(415) 459-4240