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Diane Dodge

Dorothy Graham
Graham Family Foundation
544 61st Street
Oakland, CA 94609

August 23, 2013

Dear Dorothy and the Graham Family Foundation,

Thank you for your generous total contribution of \$8,000 to East Bay College Fund. As discussed, \$4,000 will go towards your 2010 scholarship, \$1,000 for program support, and \$3,000 for Dream Catcher Funds. Because of the generosity of supporters like you, low-income, at-risk Oakland students are able to access and graduate from college. *A college degree remains the critical tool in breaking the cycle of inter-generational poverty; your gift offers hope not only to today's youth but to future generations as well.*

Since 2003, we have provided over 227 \$16,000 scholarships to students from Oakland and Emeryville public high schools. Our Scholars, who undergo a vigorous screening and application process, are paired up with an individual mentor throughout the duration of their college life. They are also provided with on-going college counseling and life skills training until their graduation. Compared with the average national graduation rate for this population, less than 30%, our graduation rate of over 80% shows the impact and success of our support services.

Our goal is to increase the number of college scholarships offered each year while also increasing the number of Oakland Unified School District students graduating from high school. We have expanded our work in preparing 9th -12th grade students to succeed in college. We now provide a variety of services on several high school campuses including building college awareness and expectation, offering academic and college advising support, and providing information on financial aid to students and parents. One of our newer programs specifically assists male African American 9th grade students in preparing for high school graduation and college attendance; we are building a pipeline to our scholarship program.

Community support of East Bay College Fund has been outstanding, but we continue to need help to meet our long-term goals. In addition to your generous financial support, here are other ways we would like to enlist your help:

- Tell a friend or colleague about East Bay College Fund
- Form a group to support scholarships
- Volunteer in our support services or become a mentor.

With your help, we are helping East Bay youth succeed in college and expand their life opportunities. Together, we are creating a more just and equitable community for all of us to enjoy.

Thank you again for your support.


Diane Dodge
Executive Director
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