



Bridge Communities, Inc.

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www.BridgeCommunities.org

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Photos available upon request

Bridge Builders Scholarships Help Make College Dreams a Reality

Bridge Builders – a group of volunteers who raise funds for Bridge Communities – provided \$4,500 in scholarships to five students of Bridge client families. Congratulations to the 2011-2012 Bridge Builders scholarship recipients:

Joanna, a freshman at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Adelbert, a junior at Winona State University in Winona, MN

Adrian, a junior at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Roaa, a senior at Columbia College in Chicago

Steffi, a senior at Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in Milwaukee, WI

“Any child of an active Bridge Communities client family is eligible to apply for a scholarship,” explains Kathy Doyle, scholarship co-chair for Bridge Builders. The applicant must be planning to attend either a two or four year college or trade school.

Incoming freshman Joanna is excited to see her dreams becoming a reality. “I have been accepted into the Air Force ROTC program and will be majoring in Aerospace Engineering,” Joanna shares enthusiastically. “My goal is to join the Air Force and eventually to be a commercial pilot. I am very excited for this wonderful opportunity to go away to school, especially a great engineering school!” Before she departed for school, Joanna left a special message to Bridge Builders and its contributors:

“I am very grateful for this scholarship, and for being in the Bridge Communities program. To receive this scholarship is wonderful. I am so excited to be going to such a great school. Thank you for all your support and all the work you have done over the years to help our family.

“Being in the Bridge program has changed my life. My future would have definitely been different. We would have gone on trying to make ends meet and trying to just get by. Bridge gave us the opportunity to have a better life, especially after all we have been through. I probably would have been in a very different situation. I have always been positive and tried to push forward. But Bridge really made it possible for me to achieve what I want to do. Bridge changed the lives of our entire family.”

“We’ve got a very dedicated group of volunteers in Bridge Builders, and they want to see these kids succeed in life,” scholarship co-chair Patricia Lekacz adds. “We believe that offering these scholarships is just one more way we can support them on their journeys.” For more information about Bridge Builders’ scholarship program, please contact Kathy Doyle at kdoyle196@aol.com or (630) 942-0824 or Patricia Lekacz at plekacz@att.net.

Bridge Communities, Inc., (Bridge) is a dynamic, grassroots, nonprofit organization committed to transforming the lives of homeless families in DuPage County through partnering with talented, resourceful individuals and groups in our community. Its program of transitional housing, mentoring and supportive services empowers the families to increase life skills and earning power to promote self-sufficiency, sustain permanent housing, and to break the cycle of poverty within the family unit. What began by co-founders Mark Milligan and Bob Wahlgren when they decided, in 1988, to begin to help homeless families, has now become a powerful current of change in the lives of hundreds of extremely low to low income at-risk families. For more information about Bridge Communities, please visit www.BridgeCommunities.org or contact Mark Milligan at (630) 545-0610, ext. 10 or mark.milligan@bridgecommunities.org.

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