



Monadnock Ledger-Transcript  
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## PETERBOROUGH ConVal Comm. Scholarship group wins challenge grant

PETERBOROUGH — In August 2007 the N.H. Charitable Foundation gave The ConVal Community Scholarship Foundation Dollars for Scholars a challenge. If CVCSF were to raise \$100,000 in contributions by the end of 2008, it would win a challenge award grant of \$10,000 from the Great Kids Scholarship Fund, which the N.H. Charitable Foundation administers.

A contribution from CIM Industries in Peterborough put this fundraising drive over the top ahead of schedule and the award from the N.H. Charitable Foundation has been received.

CVCSF, a nonprofit, charitable organization, was established in 2006 "to inspire confidence and hope with community support to help more students in the ConVal Region achieve their potential."

In partnership with ConVal guidance personnel and teachers, it identifies students with potential, but with obstacles to overcome and severely limited support or expectation of postsecondary education and motivates them to finish high school, graduate and

compete for further assistance. It awards scholarship grants to selected winners equal to 50 percent of N.H. Community Technical College tuition.

In 2007, two candidates won two-year scholarships of \$5,000, and two were given \$500. They chose career paths in art education, auto mechanics, criminal justice and nursing. The first of these expects to receive his auto mechanics certificate in October and has received an outstanding student award.

The second expects to earn her criminal justice associate degree in October and was on the dean's list in February, at the end of her first year.

The third, also getting good grades, will have her nursing associate degree in June 2009, and the fourth may continue on to a baccalaureate degree in art education.

Two of these four already have offers for employment upon completing their studies. These students received guidance and mentoring at ConVal and their progress during their postsecondary education is monitored by CVCSF members.

In its first 16 months, CVCSF attracted contributions from more than 100 residents of the nine ConVal School District towns, including 26 businesses, the Peterborough Lions Club, the Monadnock Rotary Club and other organizations.

Twelve students in the ConVal High School class of 2008 have been told that they are in the running for one of three two-year scholarship awards of \$5,800; three \$500 awards or six \$250 awards.

With continuing community support, CVCSF hopes to increase its support for promising disadvantaged students in the years ahead.

The N.H. Charitable Foundation has been working to improve the quality of life in New Hampshire since 1992.

It builds and manages a collection of funds, currently totaling more than \$490 million, created by individuals, families and corporations for charitable purposes.

For information about how to help, to contribute or to volunteer, write to CVCSF, P.O. Box 372, Peterborough.