

# The Detroit College Promise

*You've got to believe* 

31 March 2010

This is our monthly email about The Detroit College Promise. Next year, we will offer scholarships to **all** Detroit Public School graduates who apply by December 1, 2010. Ultimately, the scholarship awards will be up to full tuition at any Michigan public college or university.



## Recent News

- We started our campaign for **Letters of Encouragement**. We are asking everyone who values education to write a letter to a Detroit public high school freshman to give them a glimpse of what professional life might be like and to let them know that others have succeeded in overcoming major challenges. The letters are meant to give students confidence that there are people who believe in them and that they need to believe in themselves. To date, we have received letters from around the world in support of Detroit's children. Click [here](#) to read more about this effort. We thank Crain's Detroit Business for publishing an article about the campaign - [link](#), [PDF](#).
- Our program was endorsed by The Detroit Public Schools Foundation and by Otis Mathis, President of the Detroit Board of Education.
- Thanks to Hayden Denha, Manager of the **Farm Fresh Supermarket** on 10 Mile and Coolidge in Oak Park, Michigan, for setting up a supermarket stamp board for The Detroit College Promise. Shop at Farm Fresh, and paste the supermarket stamps you receive at checkout on our board, and Farm Fresh will contribute money to our scholarship program as each board is completed.



## How can I Help?

We have had several people ask us how they can help out our program. We understand we are living in difficult economic times and many of the ways you can help cost no money at all. Our links page now has a list of suggestions; click [here](#) to read them.

## Scholarship Applications keep growing

We now have over 1250 scholarship applications from DPS students, and are becoming one of

the largest private scholarship programs in the US. Special thanks to staff at the Cody and Osborn schools, as well as Cass Tech and Central for their help. The current number of applicants per DPS high school and per graduation year is listed on our **News** page, or click [here](#). Contact us if you need help registering students at your school.

### **Help Detroit's population grow**

There seems to be a lot of excitement about a *shrinking* population for Detroit, currently the country's 11th most populated city. We are interested in seeing Detroit's population *grow*, and based on the track record of the Kalamazoo Promise, our scholarship program is likely to make this happen. We also want to work with other businesses / organizations committed to strengthening Detroit, even if it means doing things that have not been done before in Detroit. We are considering organizing an effort by local businesses to provide financial incentives to their employees to live in Detroit. The incentives can vary from an annual gift to employees who live in Detroit to a party for Detroit-based employees, to other incentives. Let us know what you think by emailing us at [NatPernick@Hotmail.com](mailto:NatPernick@Hotmail.com).

**End of Newsletter**