

2023 award recipients



TAYLOR SIMPKINS
University of South Carolina



TIARA BUSH
University of South Carolina



WILLIAM BUSH
Erskine College



BREYONNA HILLIARD
Savannah School of the Arts Atlanta

recipients letters

MESSAGE FROM TAYLOR SIMPKINS

"I just wanted to take a moment and thank you and the entire scholarship foundation for hosting the workshop for the previous scholarship recipients and parents. My mom and I thoroughly enjoyed it, and it was a pleasure being able to meet everyone with the Springs Scholarship and to thank you all in person".

MESSAGE FROM BRIANNA

"Thank you so much for the support! The Springs Foundation and my family are the reasons why I want to continue being in the educational field."

STHS AWARDS CEREMONY MAY 15, 2023



Kyshia Carey, Lenny Springs, William Bush, Brianna Taylor, Taylor Simpkins, Tiara Bush, and Marvene Springs Carey

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 AND 2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Allan Williams (2022 scholarship award recipient) featured in Barton College's media presentation.



Devron Williams (2022 scholarship award recipient) greeting Chair Lenny Springs after a Newberry College Football game on September 9, 2023

Financial Aid Workshop (March 2023)



Amber Harmon (2021 scholarship award recipient) graduated from Georgia Southern University and now serves as GEAR UP Coach for Edgefield County School District.

THE MILDRED SPRINGS AND ELLA SPRINGS JONES SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

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THE MILDRED SPRINGS AND ELLA SPRINGS JONES SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

annual report 2023



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Established in 2021, the Mildred Springs and Ella Springs Jones Scholarship Foundation (also known as the Springs Foundation) is named in memory of Mrs. Mildred Springs and in honor of her daughter, Ella Springs Jones. Mrs. Springs always valued education and strongly believed education allows individuals to flourish and achieve their career and personal goals, which she instilled in her children, Ella, Lenny, Melvin, Brenda, Marvene, and Elaine. After graduating as valedictorian of Edgefield County Colored School and receiving a bachelor's and master's degree from South Carolina State University, Ella Springs Jones had a notable career as an educator for more than 36 years and she is a 55 year (Golden) Life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

FOUNDATION'S MISSION

The mission of the Mildred Springs and Ella Springs Jones Foundation is to provide underserved high school students with career exploration opportunities, mentoring and academic counseling. The Foundation also provides scholarship awards and students/parents workshop opportunities to prepare and assist with college admissions and financial aid.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In collaboration with Voorhees University, the Foundation was instrumental in establishing Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program (GEAR UP) for Edgefield County School middle school students.
- Awarded four academic scholarship awards to Edgefield County Students.
- Entered into a partnership agreement with Edgefield County School District to plan Project: Science Math Arts Robotics Technology (SMART) at Strom Thurmond High School.
- Secured grant funding from Wells Fargo Bank to fund Project SMART
- Provided emergency funds to scholarship award recipients in need of books, clothing, school supplies, transportation, and other necessities.
- Established an online system to track scholarship award recipients' attendance and academic achievement.

CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMARKS

Greetings,

The Mildred Springs and Ella Springs Jones Scholarship Foundation has awarded academic scholarships to Edgefield County students for the past three years. Over that time period, the Foundation has sponsored various workshops to assist students in preparing for postsecondary education, financially, socially, and academically.

To better ensure underserved students are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education and career choices, the Foundation and Storm Thurmond High School (STHS) entered into a partnership agreement to plan PROJECT: S.M.A.R.T. (Science, Mathematics, Art, Robotics, Technology). PROJECT: SMART will provide an academic program for tenth grade high school students with career exploration, mentoring (individual or group), academic counseling, financial literacy, and excursions to career related establishments and post-secondary institutions. Participants will also have the opportunity to plan and execute a community service project.

The Foundation received a grant from Wells Fargo Bank to fund PROJECT: SMART. The Foundation will provide professional speakers and career experts from various disciplines including Science, Mathematics, Art, Robotics and Technology. Strom Thurmond High School has selected Guidance Counselor, Kimberly Baynham as the PROJECT: SMART Coordinator. Ms. Baynham has developed a selection process to identify student participants and she will coordinate all activities.

Keeping in mind, "it's all about the students and their success" we look forward to having the opportunity to positively impact the lives of underserved students in Edgefield County.



DIRECTOR'S REMARKS



Twenty-twenty-three was another year of growth for the Springs Foundation including receiving corporate grants from Nike Corporation and Wells Fargo Bank NA entering into partnership agreements with Voorhees University and Edgefield County School District., introducing and facilitating GEAR UP to Edgefield County School District and the planning process for Project: SMART with Strom Thurmond High School's faculty and staff.

The Foundation developed an online system to track scholarship awards recipients as they progress through their post-secondary educational pursuits. The Foundation looks forward to the opportunity to increase the number of students we support in Edgefield County and to increase the number of students who seek post-secondary education and pursue professional careers.

I would like to thank members of the Springs Foundation's board of directors, our grantors/sponsors and our partners, Voorhees University and Storm Thurmond High School's faculty and staff for a good year.

Elyse Simone Bailey, DIRECTOR

Our TEAM

OFFICERS



LENNY SPRINGS
CEO, The S Group Consultants and Springs Family Member, Board Chair



BRIDGET ELLIS
Educational Credit Management Corporation, Vice Chair



JOI JONES GILLIAM
Springs Family Member, Secretary

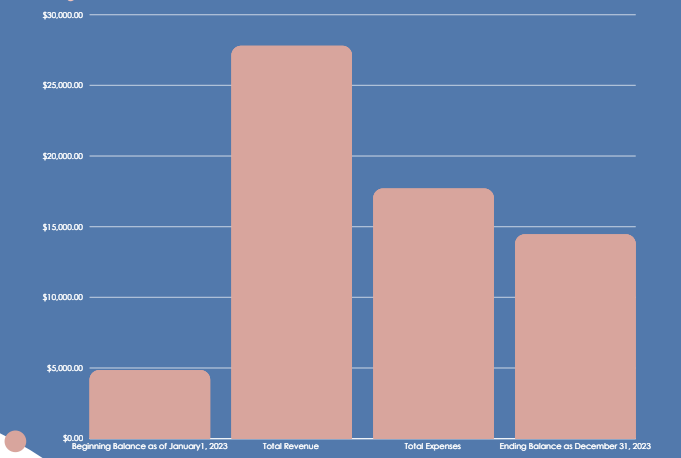


DAMAUN DOWDY
CEO, Liftus Realty, LLC, Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Dr. Ronnie Hopkins, President and CEO, Voorhees University
- Byron McCottry, Springs Family Member
- Elaine Springs McCottry, Springs Family Member
- Jerrilyn Johnson, Edgefield County School District
- Kendra Price, Multilingual Teacher, Strom Thurmond High School
- Ronnie Devine, Support Services Deputy Director, Mecklenburg County

Financial STATEMENT



Beginning Balance January 1, 2023	\$4,847.52
Total Revenue	\$27,800.00
Total Expenses	\$17,699.47
Ending Balance December 31, 2023	\$14,457.29

SUPPORTERS

- Corporate Donations**
- Nike Corporation
- Wells Fargo NA
- In-Kind Donations**
- The S Group Consultants, Inc.
- Flora Brooks Boyd
- Bridget Ellis
- Strom Thurmond High School Faculty and Staff