

June 2020

Dear Friends,

Over the last 30 years, Murphy Scholars have been the vanguard of change we hope to see in our city and our country. Scholars benefit from attending outstanding high schools and from our signature programming helping them reach their potential. Our bespoke programs include tutoring, mentoring, caddie program, leadership academy, Summer Bridge and college-test prep.

Our work together—Scholars, volunteers, donors and dedicated staff—has led to extraordinary outcomes. Murphy Scholars graduate high school and college at **six times** the rate of students from similar low-income communities. They are now financial advisors, doctors, attorneys, teachers, CEO's and community leaders.

### **Our Challenge**

Our annual summer Golf Classic event has been rescheduled to September and our evening dinner program has been cancelled. The event generates \$1.7 million in scholarship and program support for Scholars.

Despite these changes, our families are still counting on us. **More than 40 percent of Murphy Scholar families report having reduced wages and/or having lost their jobs due to the pandemic.** After paying rent and putting food on the table, our families are struggling to finance their share of their child's education.

We draw inspiration from the perseverance and success of our Scholar alumni. One of those Scholars is Artis Lewis, who recently shared her gratitude and her excitement at graduating from medical school this past May! Artis reflected on her Murphy Scholar experience:

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**"Whether it was tutoring for biology, or prepping for the PSAT and SAT exams, mentor support, or even finding funding to go out of the country for the first time to Costa Rica and learn Spanish, the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund supported me."**

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### **Our Solution: A Path Forward**

It requires our collective action to see that Scholars, like Artis, have **a path forward.**

To meet increased demand, we have launched a special appeal, A PATH FORWARD, to help support increased tuition contributions, emergency funding for families, and ongoing scholarship and operating support.

Please consider a gift today to A PATH FORWARD to support Murphy Scholars. Artis Lewis is a living example of the success of our program and a true testament to the return on investment of your contribution.

Thank you in advance for your generosity during this time.

In gratitude and partnership,



Jose Rodriguez  
Executive Director



**"I will never forget the support of DMSF and the programs that prepared me for life. I hope to pay forward the support and give back as a mentor and donor in the future. I owe it to DMSF!"**

### **ARTIS LEWIS, M.D., M.S.**

University of Chicago Lab School  
Murphy Scholar 2008

University of Chicago, B.A.  
Public Policy Studies 2012

Drexel University  
College of Medicine, M.S.  
Interdisciplinary Health Sciences  
2014

University of Illinois  
College of Medicine at Peoria,  
M.D., 2020