



## 2022 SPRING NEWSLETTER

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## SAVE THE DATES



### OLD-FASHIONED PIG ROAST

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022  
Sullivan Residence

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### GOLF FOR HOPE

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022  
Cherry Creek Country Club

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### EVENING OF HOPE GALA

SATURDAY, NOV. 19, 2022  
The Brown Palace Hotel

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For further information and sponsorships for all events, please contact  
Hannah.Thompson@archden.org or call 720-476-7486.



## **FROM THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRICIA SULLIVAN**

I feel very honored to be in the role of Executive Director for Seeds of Hope. I have witnessed the incredible impact of a Catholic education and am committed to making a Catholic education a reality for all who seek it.

My primary goal is to help even more families attain a Catholic education. This will require that we find ways to raise additional funds for our scholarships and strengthen our partnerships with our Catholic schools to better understand their needs as well as the needs of their families.

I am very excited to announce that the Seeds of Hope Board has approved an increase in the Income Eligibility Guidelines for our Seeds of Hope scholarships. After evaluating our organizational goals and opportunities, as well as the changing economic status of families in Colorado (Cost of Living and Inflation Rates), the Board has approved our Income Eligibility Guidelines to be increased from 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines to 300%.

None of the work at Seeds of Hope could be accomplished without our generous community. At Seeds of Hope, we are inspired and blessed with amazing donors who help make a difference in the lives of God's children and their families.

May God continue to bless our children with the opportunity to receive a gift of an amazing education and the beauty of our Catholic faith.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tricia Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Blessings,  
Tricia Sullivan

## TESTIMONIAL:

Seeds of Hope changed the life of Emily Chamoun and her single mother, Jennifer, during the complex educational challenges of the pandemic. Online learning at her public school was a complete struggle for Emily. Her mom tried to assist her the best that she could, while working during the day for \$21,000 a year.



Emily eventually returned to the classroom in her public school, but it was not a kind or loving environment. With too many children for teachers to manage, "a lot of bullying occurred under the radar" which greatly affected Emily. The young student became anxious, depressed and resistant to learning. Jennifer cried every time she dropped her daughter off at school as she had to go to work.

Once Jennifer enrolled Emily into St. Louis Catholic School this year with the help of Seeds of Hope, Emily's attitude toward learning changed in six short weeks. The bright student is now engaged in school activities, and her confidence has dramatically increased. Her mother said she is grateful for the "kindness, love and compassion that are at the core of a faith-based education".

The safety net of a Seeds of Hope scholarship gave this low-income family a choice in education when their school environment had become a challenge. Seeds of Hope works to support every family that qualifies for K-8 tuition assistance within the Archdiocese of Denver. "Having the Seeds of Hope scholarship was the best gift," Jennifer said.

*[This testimonial was based on an email received Oct. 6, 2021 from the mother of a recipient]*



**Please consider a donation to Seeds of Hope. Your generous gift will make a difference in the lives of God's children and their families.**

### DONATE BY:

- **Send** a check in the attached envelope payable to Seeds of Hope
- **Visit** our website at [seedsofhopedenver.org/donate](https://seedsofhopedenver.org/donate)
- **Scan** the QR Code



**Supporting schools today ensures the future of the Catholic Church tomorrow.**



## IN THE NEWS: **SEEDS OF HOPE AWARDED CLASSROOM IMPACT GRANTS TO SCHOOLS**

Due to many years of extraordinary fundraising, even amidst the pressures of the pandemic, Seeds of Hope was able to recently award grants to K - 12 Catholic schools to serve high impact, mission related areas of need.

The grant money — including a generous gift of \$100,000 from the I.A. O’Shaughnessy Foundation — served to fulfill the mission-related wish lists of schools that operate on very slim margins and rarely have the funds for any educational support tools. The grants will purchase a range of items such as updated curriculum, a 14-passenger bus, safety fencing, and advanced training for teachers.

**“We are not typically able to purchase new textbooks for the whole school at one time,”**  
**said Lisa Taylor, principal of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School.**  
**“We have a very tight budget.”**

“Most of these items applied for, have been on these schools’ bucket lists for years,” said Seeds of Hope Board member Lucy O’Shaughnessy. “The [Seeds of Hope] scholarship program is one thing, but we have to think about increasing enrollment, and keeping the schools competitive to attract good teachers to attract good students.”



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PILOT MISSION RENEWAL GRANT/ CLASSROOM IMPACT PROGRAM:

- **26 schools** received grants
- **\$440,000 distributed** to impact schools and classrooms
- **52 teachers and staff** granted support for professional development (certifications, workshops, conferences, etc.)
- **Over 60%** of these grants were awarded for curriculum upgrades
- **All grants** are serving immediate-need projects which will be accomplished by the end of this school year

The Seeds of Hope Board member acknowledged that teachers have been working under tougher and tougher conditions with the pandemic. The desire of the Board is to assist them however it can, she said.

**“We can’t make this pandemic go away, but if there’s anything we can do to make teachers feel supported, we need to do it,” O’Shaughnessy said.**

Taylor shared that the teachers at her school are grateful the new materials will help them succeed.

“This grant will truly make an impact on our school and will provide consistency across grade levels,” Taylor said. “Seeing the smiles on the teachers’ faces, even through their masks, was wonderful...It was great to be acknowledged by Seeds of Hope.”



# Q&A

## WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TRICIA SULLIVAN:

**Q: As an employee of Seeds of Hope, what made you want to step into this much larger role?**

Working at Seeds of Hope for the past 10 months has been a blessing to me and cemented my passion for Catholic education. I came to understand the important role we play for our families. When I was asked to consider the Executive Director role, I prayed on it and knew that this is what I was meant to do. I feel very honored to be in this role.

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**Q: What are your goals as the new Executive Director of Seeds of Hope?**

My primary goal is to help even more students attain a Catholic education. We currently provide more than 1,000 scholarships. We would like to grow to 1,200 scholarships for the 2022-2023 year. This requires we find ways to raise additional funds for our scholarships and strengthen our partnerships with our Catholic schools to better understand their needs and their family's needs.

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**Q: What do people not know about Seeds of Hope that you think they should?**

The families that participate in our programs are heroes. I am amazed at the sacrifice they make to ensure that their children receive a Catholic education. These stories inspire me and our entire staff to work hard to impact even more families. We are proud to partner with them in protecting God's children and helping their children attain their dreams.

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## BY THE NUMBERS:

### SEEDS OF HOPE STATISTICS – WORTHY OF YOUR INVESTMENT

(Through FY 2022)

**\$44,000**

The median household income for families of Seeds of Hope scholarship recipients.

**\$1,680**

The average family contribution per child for a Seeds of Hope family in FY2022 ; no Seeds of Hope student attends for free and the families make tremendous sacrifices to provide their children a Catholic education.

**\$40 Million+**

Amount of tuition assistance Seeds of Hope has provided families since its inception in 1996.

**23,000+**

Number of Students who have received Seeds of Hope tuition assistance since 1996.

**1,050**

Seeds of Hope scholarships were awarded in FY 2021-2022.

# HELLO

## WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE SEEDS OF HOPE FAMILY



### CLAIRE DELINE

Claire DeLine has joined the Finance Council for Seeds of Hope. We are excited that Claire will be joining our mission.



### RACHAEL BOYKO

Rachael Boyko is our new Program Coordinator at Seeds of Hope. We are honored that she has joined our team.



### ISABEL GRACE

Alex and Gina Abbott were blessed with a beautiful daughter. Isabel Grace Abbott was born on February 9, 2022. Congratulations to the Abbotts on their growing family.

PLEASE FOLLOW US:



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*Seeds of Hope cultivates  
minds and hearts for Christ  
by striving to make a  
transformative Catholic  
education financially  
accessible to any  
family who seeks it.*

***Please join our mission at Women of Hope. We are a passionate group of women who defend our faith and Catholic education.***



- Monthly speakers who focus on Catholic topics and Catholic education.
- Monthly meetings with an optional special Mass.
- Suggested annual membership of \$500 or more to Woman of Hope.

To learn more and to join our mission, please visit  
[www.seedsofhopedenver.org/women-of-hope](http://www.seedsofhopedenver.org/women-of-hope)

