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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Tricia Kuivinen, 216.325.7747 tkuivinen@cfadvocates.org

# College Scholarships for Foster-System Involved Youth 2024-25 Application Now Open

Jan. 25, 2024 ~ Cleveland, OH: Child and Family Advocates of Cuyahoga County (CFACC) is pleased to announce that limited college scholarships for local youth formerly in foster care are once again available through the **Kevin O'Boyle**Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is now open for applications for the Fall 2024 academic term.

Kevin O'Boyle was a Cleveland native, St. Ignatius graduate, Cuyahoga County and Ohio CASA board member, and active CASA volunteer for 15+ years when he suddenly and unexpectedly passed away in June 2020. Kevin served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer with more than 20 older youth experiencing foster care in both Cleveland and Chicago, and guided many to higher education and vocational training in his role as a CASA.

In honor of Kevin's legacy, CASA of Cuyahoga County offers need-based scholarship awards for up to four students for the 2024-25 academic term. Eligible students must be:

- currently enrolled in a post-secondary degree, community college, vocational training, or job certificate program in Cuyahoga County
- have a documentable foster care stay of at least one year with CCDCFS
- have achieved 50% degree or program/certificate completion/required program GPA
- have documented financial needs based on the FAFSA filing and/or advisor recommendation concerning any unique financial circumstances
- referred by their school or program advisor using a CFACC-provided form

This scholarship is open only to former foster-system involved youth served by the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services, and is limited to post-secondary educational and job training services provided in Cuyahoga County.

The scholarship application and required reference & recommendation forms can be accessed at <a href="https://cfadvocates.org/scholarship-fund/">https://cfadvocates.org/scholarship-fund/</a>. For additional questions about eligibility for the scholarship, please contact CASA of Cuyahoga County: <a href="mailto:info@cfadvocates.org">info@cfadvocates.org</a> or 216.325.7747.

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