

April 14, 2017

Dear (Donor Name):

Last fall, we observed the 15th anniversary of September 11, 2001 – a day that forever changed 3,000 families and the world as we knew it. We remember the pain and the anger we all felt that day, and much of that lingers. But we were also uplifted by the extraordinary strength, kindness, resiliency, and selflessness shown by countless individuals across our great nation. From the volunteers who spent months at Ground Zero, to the blood donors whose lines wrapped around neighborhood blocks, to the people who contributed food or money – the tremendous outpouring of love and support unified this country and showed the world how a crisis can strengthen, rather than weaken, our belief in our common humanity.

This is why we're writing: to ask that you continue supporting the families of those we lost or those who were permanently disabled on that fateful day 15 years ago.

The Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund was established just days after the attacks to provide funds for postsecondary study to financially needy dependents of those killed or permanently disabled in New York, the Pentagon, or in Pennsylvania. We were honored to co-chair the fundraising effort. Since its founding, the Fund has awarded \$136 million to 3,100 students, helping them achieve their dreams while making the world a little better for us all. We couldn't have accomplished this without the generosity of people like you.

However, since the inception of the Fund, the need has expanded exponentially – for example, the number of people receiving treatment for cancer related to the attacks has tripled since 2014. In spite of this – thanks, in large part, to the management by Scholarship America – the Fund continues to benefit anyone who qualifies. The increase in recipients has resulted in the award amounts covering, on average, just 50 percent of a student's educational costs, down from 90 percent previously.

We can't continue this mission without your sustained support. That is why we are asking you to consider matching your original donation, or donating to the Fund at a level equal to 75%, 50% or 25% of your original donation. We need to raise \$20 million this year to help bolster the Families of Freedom Fund. We want to be able to continue to help all children and spouses of those killed or disabled on 9/11 who want a higher education – and it is our hope to cover a larger percentage of their educational costs.

To donate, please email Rhianna Quinn Roddy at <u>RQuinnRoddy@ScholarshipAmerica.org</u>, or go to <u>FamiliesOfFreedom.org</u>.

Your support and generosity remind us of our nation's strength in the face of adversity. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration of this worthy endeavor.

Sincerely,

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President Bill Clinton

God Bless America,

Senator Bob Dole