

INVEST IN KIDS TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AT CRISTO REY JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

2023-2024 REPORT



Thank you for helping us to provide the country's only Jesuit, dual-language education to the students of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago. Illinois' Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program supported nearly 50 of our students and their families this school year and we are grateful for your generosity. While we are disappointed that this vital program has sunset, we remain committed to supporting our students to achieve the quality education they deserve and appreciate your continued direct support consideration. With the ending of the state's TCS program, Cristo Rey will need to find alternate avenues to raise \$500,000 every year.

This year's recipients:

- Represent all four grade levels.
- Demonstrate need with 81% of the scholars qualifying as highest priority level based on income.
- Will be first-generation college students.
- Come from both private and public elementary schools before Cristo Rey.

Reflections from Tax Credit Scholarship recipients:

Samantha L.: "Thank you, Big Shoulders, for providing me with this opportunity to be a recipient of the tax credit scholarship. Coming from a lower income family, having kind individuals like yourself to support my education helps alleviate a lot of stress for my family. This opportunity helps my parents save more money for other household expenses and help my older sister who is in college in Dayton, Ohio. Your generosity is something that has changed my life by financially supporting my Catholic education and I am eternally grateful."

Valeria I.: "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend Cristo Rey. Being able to attend this school is such a privilege. I am grateful for the head start in receiving a quality education in a private school that will provide me with the knowledge and work experience to pursue college and career in the future. I am beyond grateful to Big Shoulders and the private donors who have funded this scholarship over the past five years and I was lucky to have been a recipient the past two years."

Zuleika R.: "Thank you, Empower Illinois, for providing me the opportunity to attend Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. I have younger siblings that also attend Catholic schools, so this scholarship has been a tremendous financial help for my parents. Without this scholarship

the past two years, I would not be able to get a good Catholic, Jesuit education at Cristo Rey. Thank you for your continuous support."

Gabriela R.: "Thank you from the bottom of my heart, for providing me with this scholarship. I am grateful for your financial help because it allows me to attend a good Catholic High School where I enjoy going to learn every day in a safe and supportive environment. Since I come from a family of 7, this scholarship has been a blessing to my parents. My education is important to me because it's my goal to achieve a college degree and be successful in making my parents proud. Thank you so much for your kindness."

Viviana A.: "Thank you for allowing me a chance to continue my studies at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School. I am thankful my tuition is covered; this is a relief to my family since my brother also attends Cristo Rey. I am excited that my hard work is making a difference. I just had my induction ceremony to NHS, where my parents could view my achievements. They were excited and happy for me; it was a magical feeling. A feeling I want to continue through graduation and beyond. With this scholarship, I can continue my education at my dream high school. Thank you for your aid in my education at Cristo Rey."

Thank you for generously supporting our students and their families. To renew your support or for more information, please visit the "Giving" section of our website at www.cristorey.net/giving or contact Dawn Zamora at dzamora@cristorey.net or (773) 890-6834.