

Chris O'Brien

From: Don Susan Sheridan <sheridands@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Chris O'Brien
Subject: In support of Rhode Island Promise

I am writing in support of making the Rhode Island Promise program permanent.

My daughter is going to be a freshman at Toll Gate High School. She may be young, but my oldest daughter is a recent college graduate who I now have to watch suffer through college debt. We were devastated to hear that promise program was beginning for students just one year below her. Instead of complaining about it, I thought, "well at least my younger daughter Jessica will be able to get through college stress-free!" I watched my oldest daughter work 3 jobs through college to help pay her way through, while still having to take out numerous loans. I had a sense of relief knowing that at least I wouldn't have to see my other child so stressed through college, but now I don't know if that will happen. With Rhode Island Promise, we know our daughter would be getting a great education without the burden of that debt.

I have watched dozens of my daughter's friends go to CCRI on the Promise scholarship, and we were preparing to do the same. But, if the program ends, I don't know what the future holds and am not confident my youngest daughter will get the opportunity to go to college like my other daughter. I've been a Warwick taxpayer for 27 years who has fully endorsed the Promise Program since Day one, and for that reason my child deserves and has the right to be a Rhode Island Promise Scholar.

I know there is a lot of uncertainty with the coronavirus. I worry about people who have lost their jobs and won't be able to help their children pay for college. Our family and so many others need this program, especially now. Please make the program permanent and give us the security we need knowing our daughter will be able to go to college.

Thank you,
Susan Sheridan
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