BACKGROUND:
Linda Dodd dedicated 26 years of her life to the growth and education of area children as a special education teacher. Her enthusiasm, creativity, and effort earned her two “Teacher of the Year” awards at New Glarus High School and Marathon High School. When she passed away in July of 2003, her husband, Roger, and three children established this scholarship fund to keep her spirit alive within the community and to honor Linda’s dedication to her life’s work with special education students.

Roger recalls, “Linda was a wonderful, caring person. She was my soul mate and an incredible mother. As a teacher, her students liked and respected her. She wanted to see them grow and enter society as productive adults. She was caring, yet assertive. She wanted to be an instrumental part of their lives as they worked toward their goals.”

PURPOSE OF THE FUND:
This scholarship fund is designed to annually award two scholarships to Marathon High School graduating special education students, students considering teaching in the field of special education, or students already involved as teacher’s aids or tutors.

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION GUIDELINES:
Students interested in this scholarship are encouraged to complete the general scholarship application form through the Marathon High School guidance office. The Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin will monitor the Marathon High School Scholarship Selection Committee process in choosing the scholarship recipients. Candidates for this scholarship must meet the following criteria:

First Choice: Deserving Marathon High School special education students who are planning to pursue a post-secondary education beyond the high school level in any field of study.

Second Choice: Deserving Marathon High School graduating seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to special education. These students may have volunteered within the school as special education aides or tutors, or in a similar position at an agency within the community. Students should exhibit sound social and leadership skills, and academic achievement (with at least a 3.0 GPA). These students should not have displayed discipline problems within their high school career.

Third Choice: In the event that such students do not exist in any given year according to the above criteria, the scholarship shall be awarded to a deserving Marathon High School student who exhibits sound social and leadership skills, and academic
achievement (with at least a 3.0 GPA). These students should not have displayed discipline problems within their high school career. Preference may be given to students who plan to pursue a career in the field of special education.

**SELECTION COMMITTEE:**
The Marathon High School Scholarship Selection Committee is designated by the Community Foundation to review potential applicants based on the guidelines above. Input from the special education department is most desirable.

Members of the immediate families of any of the Selection Committee members shall be eligible to apply with the provision that the related member not serve on the committee during the year in which the application is considered.

**ANNOUNCEMENT AND PAYMENT:**
Upon selection of the scholarship recipient, Marathon High School will notify the Community Foundation of their choice. The Dodd family will name a presenter to award the scholarship at the ceremony; the Community Foundation, or a school representative, are willing to make the presentation if a family representative is not available.

The recipient will receive a congratulatory letter from the Community Foundation after the awards ceremony, instructing them on how to receive their scholarship funding.

Scholarship funds will be paid by the Community Foundation directly to the school the student will be attending. The student must provide proof of registration to the Community Foundation office for payment to be initiated.

For more information, you can contact the Community Foundation office:

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
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