CHILD WELFARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

» Approximately 10 scholarships will be awarded to incoming students who are interested in becoming child welfare specialists. Special consideration will be given to students who have had personal life experience within the child welfare system and/or are interested in working in the Native American community.

» Graduates work as social workers, therapists working with maltreated children, program managers, community organizers and policymakers.

PROGRAM FUNDING

» Nonresident Student: $10,000/semester ($40,000 total)

» Resident Student: $5,000/semester ($20,000 total)

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Placed in foster care as an adolescent, Corey O’Neill encountered many of the problems that plague the system: poverty, neglect, abuse, young parenthood.

But his experience—which included incarceration at the age of 17—motivated him to change the course of his trajectory. He earned his high school diploma while in prison and, after being released, found a job and pursued a college education.

It was while he was attending undergrad classes that Corey discovered his talent for public speaking—giving him a platform from which to tell his story and the stories of others like him. The School of Social Work took notice, and now Corey is pursuing his MSW as a Child Welfare Scholarship recipient.

“The focus of this scholarship on abuse and neglect adds a human element that you’re not likely to find in other degrees or programs. You’re saving children’s lives...what’s more rewarding than that?”

“Foster care youth is a population of young people who can’t speak for themselves, and without social workers, they’d have no one to do it for them.”