President’s Message
LBF is Giving Kids a Chance

By President H. Minor Pipes III

Katelyn’s dad was a cab driver in New Orleans for 30 years. As he was approaching the customer’s destination, the customer robbed him and shot him seven times. He died on the job.

Alesha’s dad was an ambulance worker in Cameron Parish. He was crushed when strong winds knocked the trailer housing his office off of its blocks. He was pinched between the building and a car. He died on the job.

This year it is estimated that more than 100 Louisiana workers will die on the job. More than 45,000 will be injured, leaving half of those injured disabled. Families of these individuals will face difficult challenges as they struggle to overcome the financial burden of these losses. Often a child’s dream of going to college is crushed because of unexpected income loss and/or the necessity for the child to forfeit an education to help financially support other family members. To these children, the future can appear frightening. Already confronting difficult emotions, they often have to confront the hurdle of funding their education beyond high school.

This year, Katelyn, Alesha and 15 additional students received $52,500 in scholarships from the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) Kids’ Chance Scholarship Program. These scholarships are specifically awarded to dependents of Louisiana workers who have been killed or permanently and totally disabled in a workplace accident. The LBF Kids’ Chance Scholarship Program is administered by the LBF and governed by a committee representing a cross-section of the state’s legal and workers’ compensation communities. Since its inception in 2004, the LBF Kids’ Chance Scholarship Program has awarded 235 students like Katelyn and Alesha scholarships totaling $459,600.

The Louisiana Workers’ Compensation Corp. is hosting its Annual Kids’ Chance Golf Tournament on Oct. 19 at Louisiana Country Club. All proceeds benefit the LBF Kids’ Chance Scholarship Program. For more information on the golf tournament, contact Dee Jones at (504) 561-1046.

In addition, the LBF is participating in the first National Kids’ Chance Awareness Week, Nov. 2-6. Please help us spread the word about this program to families in your area. Applications for the 2016-17 school year, along with the guidelines, will be available on the LBF’s website on Dec. 1.

For more information or questions about the LBF Kids’ Chance Scholarship Program or to find out how you can participate in a Kids’ Chance Awareness Week activity, contact Dennette Young at (504) 561-1046, email dennette@raisingthebar.org; or go to the LBF website at: www.raisingthebar.org/kidschance.

Grantee Spotlight: LBF Helping to Protect and Empower Against Abuse

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. One out of every four women in a relationship will experience some sort of physical abuse in her lifetime. This could be your mother, your sister, your daughter, your friend. Domestic violence cuts across all socioeconomic lines regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, income or age.

The domestic violence agencies that the Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) funds enable people to leave abusive relationships and seek safety. The essential services provided by these agencies include a 24-hour crisis line; shelter for abused spouses and their children; legal services; education concerning domestic and dating violence; and establishing collaborative relationships with law enforcement, judges, clerks of court and prosecutors.

The LBF proudly supports the following domestic violence programs: Beaufort Community Concerns, Inc.; Catholic Charities/Project S.A.V.E.; Chez Hope; D.A.R.T. of Lincoln; Faith House, Inc.; Metropolitan Center for Women and Children; Oasis; Project Celebration; Safe Harbor, Inc.; Safety Net for Abused Persons; Southeast Spouse Abuse Program; St. Bernard Battered Women’s Program; The Haven, Inc.; The Wellspring Alliance for Families, Inc.; and United Way of Central Louisiana.

FOOTNOTE