



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on June 18, 2021

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The Goodness of America

Generous Student Turns Savings Into Scholarship

Joshua Nelson of St. Charles, Missouri, had been saving his money for college, but his impressive academic and extracurricular achievements earned him a full scholarship. Nelson then decided that he would use his savings to help another student go to college.

KSDK reported that Nelson's good grades, three-year varsity basketball career, and service as president of the school's Multi-Cultural Achievement Committee earned him a scholarship at Southeast Missouri State, where he will major in biomedical sciences as part of the pre-optometry program. CNN reported Nelson is also a member of the National Honor Society, National Society of Black Engineers, and the Black Student Union. He also tutors kids at the community's Boys and Girls Club.

"My whole family has very poor vision, we're all relying on contacts and glasses," Nelson explained to *Good Morning America (GMA)*. "I was thinking if I want to go into the medical field, let me go somewhere that's going to help me and my family."

Nelson is one of only five students selected for the President's Scholarship at Southeast Missouri State. The scholarship covers tuition and boarding for four years, so long as Nelson meets the annual renewal criteria.

With the burden of college costs now gone, Nelson decided he wanted to generously donate the more than \$9,000 he saved for college, and decided he will offer it as a scholarship to a worthy student in need, he told *GMA*.

Nelson set up the Joshua Nelson Leaders in Action Scholarship and created a page on the Multi-Cultural Achievement Committee's website to accept donations.

Nelson initially planned to donate his savings all at once, but has since decided to give \$1,000 annually to the scholarship fund, along with donations from outsiders.

On June 1, he awarded his first scholarship, for \$2,000, to fellow student Darrell Montalvo-Luna.

He told We Love St. Charles that his dream for the Joshua Nelson Leaders in Action Scholarship is for it to be funded for years to come.

Teacher, Friend, Family

Pennsylvania teacher Barb Heim has gone well beyond the call of duty by visiting her second-grade student, Harrison Conner, every day during the pandemic. Harrison has leukemia, and Heim wanted to be sure he did not fall behind. According to Harrison's parents, Heim has become like part of the family.

[Today.com](#) reported Heim, a 35-year teacher at Conneaut Valley Elementary School in Conneautville, concludes every school day with a 20-minute drive from school to Harrison's home to deliver the day's lesson. Though the school returned to in-person classes in the fall, Harrison has been working remotely because of his condition.

Harrison was diagnosed with leukemia at the end of 2019, after the school noticed the young student struggled during recess to keep up with the other active students. When the students returned from



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Christmas break at the start of 2020, Harrison's absence was felt by teachers and classmates alike, according to [Today.com](#).

Before all students at Harrison's school were forced to attend class remotely, Heim's class would call Harrison on Zoom every day after recess. Heim would read Harrison a story and give his classmates an opportunity to say hello to their friend. But once all the students were at home, Harrison became further isolated, prompting Heim to take action so that he would not fall behind or feel too lonely.

And according to Harrison's mother, Suzanne Conner, Heim's visit feels more like a visit from family.

"It's not like a teacher is coming from school to teach, she's like an aunt who is coming over to hang out, and she brings goodies, and she is always bringing a smile," Suzanne said. "My kids will meet her at the front door with all the latest news and it's incredibly, incredibly, special."

Harrison is thankfully in remission, though he will continue to require treatment for another year and a half.

And Harrison and his family are comforted knowing they can count on Heim.

Teen Finds Help From Strangers

An anonymous teen walked into the El Patron restaurant in Jersey City, New Jersey, in desperate need of help, and a patron immediately took action.

Fox 10 News reported Alease Scott and her boyfriend, Walter Cocca, were eating inside the restaurant on May 19 when a 14-year-old girl walked in holding a newborn baby that she had just birthed. The teen asked the employees for help.

"This girl comes in asking for help," restaurant owner Frankie Aguilar said, according to WPIX. "Really, like desperate eyes, asking 'somebody,' like, pleading, 'Can you help me?' She was asking for the firefighters. It was a very dangerous situation."

That is when Scott, a mother of two grown sons and a CPR- and first-aid-trained preschool teacher, intervened. She is seen on the restaurant's CCTV footage having a brief conversation with the teen before the girl hands Scott the baby. Shortly after, the teen abruptly walked out.

Scott told authorities that the teen handed her the baby when she asked the teen if she could check the baby's vitals.

Cocca live-streamed some of the scene on his Facebook page.

"So, I'm at my neighborhood restaurant with my special friend and a lady comes in and hands her a baby," Cocca is heard saying in the video. "Apparently a newborn and runs out."

Scott is seen in the video comforting the baby, noting that while the baby's heartbeat was strong, her breathing was labored.

When police arrived, they reportedly deferred to Scott, handing her the oxygen mask and allowing her to administer the oxygen to the newborn.

The 14-year-old was later found and taken to the hospital. No charges will be brought against her. The baby will be put up for adoption.



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