

November 7th, 2012

Give Kids a Chance
c/o Brian J. McDonough
150 West Flagler Street, Suite 2200
Miami, FL 33130

Dear Scholarship Committee:

I am writing this letter to thank you for your generous financial support towards my higher education. It was an honor to be chosen as a recipient of the Give Kids a Chance scholarship in 2007. This scholarship has allowed me to be the first person in my family to attend college and given me the peace of mind to know that I will graduate without the burden of a substantial debt. Your support has kept my mother and me as an undergraduate student from worrying about the cost of tuition, academic fees, and other costs such as textbooks and supplies. The Give Kids a Chance scholarship program has provided me with the unconditional support that I needed to press on and be successful in school and in life. I truly value my education here at the Florida State University, and this scholarship has afforded me the opportunity to complete an area of study, the motivation to continue my higher education, and the determination to achieve.

I am a Human Resource Management and Risk Management/Insurance major who plans to pursue a career in risk management or the insurance industry. In fall 2009, I graduated *cum laude* from Gulf Coast State College with an Associate in Arts degree in General Studies. I am currently a senior at F.S.U. and plan to graduate in the spring of 2013. After graduation, I will seek employment in hopes of making a difference in people's lives while attending graduate school. I am also interested in obtaining professional designations should I decide to continue to pursue the insurance route.

Since my first year at F.S.U., I was awarded a scholarship in the form of rent-free housing to help deserving young people realize their dreams of college. As a resident of the Southern Scholarship Foundation, I enjoyed a cooperative living environment with seventeen other women and acquired intangible life skills while living at SSF. My leadership experience, particularly with the Student Society for Human Resource Management Chapter at Florida State University (SHRM @ FSU), is an example of my initiative and motivation. As a treasurer for SHRM @ FSU, I have participated in community service opportunities, networked with HR professionals, and coordinated fundraising events for the chapter. This summer, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to intern at Quality Distribution, Inc. in Tampa, FL. As an intern, I participated in insurance renewal meetings, presentations, and corporate tours. This internship opportunity allowed me to grow professionally as well as understand the practice of risk management within a corporation.

Once again, I offer my sincerest thanks to Mr. McDonough, the staff, and the scholarship committee of the Give Kids a Chance fund for providing the financial means to explore my dreams of college. Your financial generosity will allow me to graduate from F.S.U., making me the first in my family to earn a Bachelor's degree, and has inspired me to help others by giving back to the community. I look forward to helping other students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,

Simone Buchanan