

Bonner Scholars

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Bonnors serve people in need through not-for-profit agencies in the area. They tutor elementary students, help with after-school programs, visit senior citizens, build houses and work in shelters. Bonner students select a service site based on both community needs, and their passion, schedule and goals.

Some popular service sites for Bonnors include:

- A Place to Stay
- Alcoa City Schools
- Blount County Public Library
- Boys and Girls Club
- Gateway to Independence
- MLK Jr. Community Center
- Special Growers

FINANCIAL AID

The Bonner Scholarship is a need-based award program for first-year students passionate about making a difference in their community. Recipients are required to invest service hours in exchange for financial aid assistance.

\$3,000 plus additional grant money up to **\$20,000** based on financial need. Renewable with 2.0 GPA and full participation in the program.



MARYVILLE
COLLEGE
IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Why be a Bonner Scholar at Maryville College?

Funded through an endowment established by the Princeton, N.J.-based Corella & Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, the Bonner Scholarship program serves two purposes: First, it allows students who might have financial hardships the opportunity to attend a first-rate school like Maryville College. Second, it pairs these students with community partners, providing much needed volunteer service for the surrounding area while developing students to be leaders in the community. Bonner students serve an average of 10 hours each week and also volunteer two out of three summers. Students receive a monthly stipend plus additional financial aid, which varies depending upon need. Students receive expense money and stipends for each summer of service. This program is open to first-year students and upper-class replacements as needed and is renewable for three years.

MEET A CURRENT SCOT



Michel Gonzalez

Hometown: Lenoir City, Tennessee

The Bonner Program has given Michel a space where she can meet people from a variety of backgrounds and grow personally and professionally. “With the many service sites, I not only get to explore multiple career paths, but I also get real-world experience in my field of study, something that many people don’t get until after college,” she said.

During a recent summer internship at the MLK Jr. Community Center, Michel provided lessons and activities for 18 children in a day camp setting. “After camp, I became more aware of my passion for learning and kids, so I added an Educational Studies minor,” she said.

Michel’s plans include using her service to find connections between her Political Science major and new minor while taking on leadership roles in student organizations. She hopes to apply the knowledge gained to her future law school studies.

MEET A RECENT GRAD



Aaron Solomon ‘20

Currently: Director of Community Partnerships at Wesley House in Knoxville, Tennessee

Having engaged in community service in high school, Aaron’s interest in the Bonner program was piqued when he visited campus for his football tour. The Bonner program showed Aaron how to use his degree in Management and serve his community in one role. Among his service sites were the MLK Center and the Boys and Girls Club. “MC is by far the biggest reason I can be where I am today with my career and my passions,” he said.

Aaron’s role with Wesley House focuses on business development with churches, businesses, civic organizations and college campuses. An ordained minister who is considering full-time ministry, he also looks to earn his MBA. His dream is to use his business skills to create a non-profit out of his ministry that “focuses on helping people in need, specifically people of color, reach their financial, educational and God-given goals.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

visit maryvillecollege.edu/bonner and bonner.org or call 865.981.8299