



SCOTTISH RITE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
VALLEY LIAISON COMMITTEE



February 2017

Dear Scottish Rite Brethren,

As was pointed out in our letter last November, the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation wants to keep our brethren aware of those programs the Foundation supports by providing brief summaries of some of those activities two or three times a year. These will be very brief statements that we ask you to read at your subsequent lodge, chapter or consistory meeting. Each will only take a couple of minutes to read but in so doing, our brethren will have a better idea of some of the practical applications of our donations and support as well as hear snippets of stories from the children benefitting from the various Learning Centres across the country.

Included with this letter is the second of these planned summaries. This one provides some insight into what it is like to struggle with dyslexia.

For more information about the Learning Centres being funded, or to make an on-line donation, check out the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation website at: www.srcf.ca.

Best fraternal regards,

Ronald L. Findlater, 33°
Chairman
Valley Liaison Committee



SCOTTISH RITE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
VALLEY LIAISON COMMITTEE



We recently told you about one of the research projects supported by the Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation as it works to help “solve the puzzles of the mind”. On a more direct level, the Foundation supports Learning Centres for Children located in eight cities across the country. These children are struggling with dyslexia, a learning difficulty that makes it hard for them to read.

Most of us don’t know what it’s like to be unable to read fluently and can’t imagine the negative impact this has on self-confidence and feelings of self-worth. This is what Heather, a graduate of the Halifax Learning Centre, had to say. “I have always felt different from the other kids, they could read and write and I couldn’t. It made me feel stupid, different and alone. I didn’t really have that much self-esteem when I was little, not until I found the Centre. There I learned I wasn’t stupid, there were others like me. There was a reason I almost failed so many grades and wasn’t like the other kids.”

In addressing an audience of Scottish Rites and their wives she goes on to say, “I would not be where I am without all of you and I’m forever thankful that you chose to make the Centre. I’ve come so far and I have you to thank for it. Thank you for investing in us kids that go to the Centre; it really does mean so much to all of us.”

If you get the opportunity to attend the graduation ceremony at any of the Learning Centres, make sure you go. Listening to these young people and their stories, their struggles and their successes is an eye-opening experience. It reinforces the value we have placed in establishing these Learning Centres and in the work being done to assist those children who attend there. And make sure you bring lots of tissues because after listening to these children tell their stories, there is rarely a dry eye in the room.

This is the story of just one student who has graduated from the Learning Centre; there are many more like Heather with similar stories. We in Scottish Rite can be proud to support these Learning Centres. For more information on the Centres across the country, check out the Foundation website at www.srcf.ca and remember to use the blue envelope to make your donation!