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Nina Haven Charitable Foundation scholarship workshops teach 500 college bound students secrets to the successful seven minute interview

STUART, FL – When you only have seven minutes to sell yourself in a college scholarship interview, you have to be prepared. The Nina Haven Charitable Foundation that has been giving college scholarships to Martin County high school graduates since 1961 recently presented three workshops to help Martin County, South Fork and Jensen Beach High Schools’ juniors and seniors succeed in the interview that could change their lives.

“It was very informative,” said Jessica Howard, a South Fork High School senior. “I get really nervous before interviews; it was good to have someone from the Nina Haven Foundation explain what they’re looking for.”

Howard was one of 350 students who filled the Media Center at South Fork High School recently to hear human resources professional Margot Graff explain how to prepare for an interview, anticipate questions, and present themselves in a positive manner.

Teen actress Amanda Paul of Starstruck Productions enacted both bad and good interview skills during a mock interview that helped students see the importance of appropriate dress and proper communication.

“With the average scholarship interview lasting just seven minutes, students need to make a positive impression as they explain why they need the scholarship and communicate that they are prepared to be successful in the college environment. With just seven minutes, preparation for the interview is critical,” said Judy Weber, Nina Haven Charitable Foundation board president and former Nina Haven Scholarship recipient.

Students or parents interested in receiving the Secrets to the Successful Seven Minute Scholarship Interview or Nina Haven Scholarships can visit www.ninahaven.org or call 772-287-7645.

The Nina Haven Charitable Foundation, one of Martin County’s oldest scholarship programs, currently supports 100 students in nationwide colleges and universities. NHCF Scholars are eligible to receive up to a \$2,500-a-year scholarship, and may receive as much as \$10,000 towards their education.

“This is an important time of year for many students as they prepare to interview for college admission and scholarships,” said Becky Freeman, Nina Haven Charitable Foundation board member. “We’re very pleased with the large turnout and hope the students learned some interviewing tips that will help them achieve their goals.”

Charles Anderson, Career Specialist at South Fork, also a Board Member of NHCF and recipient of his own Nina Haven scholarship in 1968, said, “The point is to do all that we can do to prepare these kids now, and to give them every opportunity to be on top of their game. Knowing these skills could be the one thing that will help them stand out, get a scholarship and succeed, and because a counselor once helped me. It’s all about giving back.”

Since 1961, the Nina Haven Charitable Foundation has awarded more than \$3.7 million to 800 students in Martin County. Scholars are chosen based upon financial need and the commitment and promise to stay in school.

For more information: call 772-287-7645, email: info@ninahaven.org; or visit the website: www.ninahaven.org.

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