

Robert and Dr. Judy Nissen Scholarship
for University Center Students



The ROBERT AND DR. JUDY NISSEN SCHOLARSHIP at the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation reflects the value Judy and her late husband placed in education.

Judy's own life experiences have made her sensitive to the challenges women face in the workplace. At age 29, the former schoolteacher was widowed with two little girls. She later remarried, but when that relationship didn't go as planned, Nissen found herself searching back home in Iowa for work. Fourteen years' worth of teaching experience made her too expensive to hire in the public school system. An opening at Marshalltown Community College provided the break she needed.

There, Nissen eventually became the director of the school's Small Business Development Center. Knowing that a master's degree was critical to her career, she enrolled at Northeast Missouri State, a 300-mile round trip from her home.

Then tragedy struck. Nissen's teenage daughters were killed in a car wreck in 1983. "My Ph.D. gave me something to focus on," she says.

Her degree complete, Nissen and husband Robert came to Sioux Falls in 1995 when she accepted the directorship at the Center for Public Higher Education. Under Nissen's leadership, the Center emerged as USDSU, now University Center. By the time she retired in 2001, the university was serving nearly 2,000 area students.

Applicants must —

- Be 24 years of age or older.
- Have completed at least one semester (6 credit hours) at University Center in Sioux Falls, S.D.
- Be pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree at University Center and enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours per term.
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA.
- Demonstrate financial need.

To Apply, submit in one package —

- A letter certifying you are 24 years of age or older, outlining your career goals, and describing your financial need, including that caused by family circumstances that rendered you substantially without meaningful financial support for educational expenses.
- A description of interests and activities
- An official college transcript.

In making awards, the selection panel will give preference to women; however, men who fit the eligibility criteria are welcome to apply. Selections are based heavily upon career goals and financial need.

Recipients may renew their awards so long as they continue to meet eligibility requirements by submitting a written renewal request along with an updated transcript.

Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2012.

Award: \$500

Send completed applications to:
Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation
Robert and Dr. Judy Nissen Scholarship Committee
300 N. Phillips Avenue, Suite 102
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6035