

# A celebration of life, love and service

Cherif Youssef
COO and Co-Founder of the Coptic Educational Foundation (CEF)
October 28, 1951 - December 27, 2022

### Celebrating a great man...

In addition to being a devoted husband, loving father, and cherished grandfather, Cherif was an accomplished Engineer with a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from USC. He began his illustrious career at the Southern California Gas Company, where he worked in several different roles until his retirement over 40 years later.

#### ...and a greater servant

Merely excelling in his career was never enough for Cherif. In addition to his busy personal and professional life, Cherif believed in giving back to his community.

As an active board member to many organizations, Cherif accomplished great things. Some of his many highlights included managing the rebuilding of St. Mark Coptic Church in Los Angeles after it burned down, and coleading the large-scale Pharaoh's Festival in Santa Monica on behalf of St. Peter and St. Paul Coptic Church.

## ...whose impact will be felt by generations.

In the spirit of serving the future of his community, Cherif joined the Coptic Educational Foundation as Chief Operating Officer. In the coming years, the organization grew from three churches, with localized services, to a multi-disciplinary, structured organization with a long list of services, serving youth across all of California, and expanding to Dubai and Egypt.

Cherif loved the quote "strive to leave every place better than you found it," and he ignited others to do the same. His tireless and humble service changed the trajectory of countless lives and will be felt for generations to come.





# strive to leave every place better than you found it





















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# 2022 Highlights

Workshops

Registered Students **†††††††**† from 26 Churches 

Undergraduate Merit **Achievement** Scholarship

**Students** \$1000 Awarded **EACH** 

**Graduate School** Merit Achievement Scholarship

**Students** Awarded \$2,000 Each



Committed Church **Mentors** 







17,589 47%

increase in reach YOY



One-on-One Counseling

Registered

Students



**New Churches** served in

2022

Bringing our total

to Churches Study Abroad Pilot









7,856 Website Visits





# A Year in Review

# **New Programs**

To continue our growth and outreach, CEF launched the following pilots in 2022:

- **Study Abroad Program:** Pilot program introduced in Dubai and Egypt to provide prospective international students with information and guidance to meet US-based college admission requirements.
- **Al Tafawok Scholarship:** Pilot program to recognize academic and non-academic achievements of 10 public high school main stream (thanawya ama) graduates who were accepted to public universities in Egypt.



**Applicants** 

12

6

Churches



L.E. 50,000

Awarded



**EAI Tafawok Recipients** 



# Workshops

CEF's trained staff of academic counselors conducted 36 separate workshops attended by over 630 students. The content of the workshops was geared towards meeting the educational needs of different age groups from middle school through college.





#### COLLEGE ADMISSION WORKSHOP

Helps high school students and parents understand the US college system, its requirements, and the admission process.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL WORKSHOP

Focused on the steps students should take in 6th – 8th grades to prepare themselves for high school.

#### FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Helps high school students & parents learn about different resources available to fund college expenses, including available scholarships.











Churches

22

53





Just like our forefathers, from Pope Cyril the IV in the 1800 to our current Pope Tawadros the II, CEF continues to place high importance on education.





Students Registered

Churches

#### **CHSPE & MORE**

Dedicated to understanding the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE).



## 5

#### **HOW TO HELP YOUR KIDS SUCCEED**

This workshop provides advice, tips, and recommendations on how to help your kids excel in school and was conducted in both English & Arabic.





#### **APPLYING TO GRAD SCHOOL**

Helps students understand graduate school requirements, including Masters and PhD Programs, Law School, and Medical School.





#### PERSONAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP

Focuses on helping high school juniors and seniors write impactful personal statements for college applications.











Our primary mission is to help all of you to get into college! We come to you ... to your church, to offer you advice, assistance and to help you meet your goals.

# One-on-One Counseling

CEF offered individual counseling to numerous students and parents to address their educational needs in many areas including:

- Reviewed 52 personal statements and provided individualized consultations
- Supported 4 students by providing counseling services and thorough reviews of each step of the college admission process



# 52 STUDENTS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING SERVICES IN A 1:1 SUPPORT MODEL



College Applications



Finding Tutors



Major selection advisement



Review of college application



Advisement on course selection



Detailed review of college application



Detailed review of financial aid application



CEF continues to help thousands of youth unlock their potential and succeed both academically and professionally. We need to create opportunities for students, to guide them, set them on the path to success so that they become proud, successful, and active members of the Coptic community for many years to come.

# Scholarships

- CEF collaborated with the Gene Wolfe organization and offered 15 Merit Achievement Scholarships of \$1,000 each to high school seniors and community college transfer students who demonstrated outstanding academic and non-academic achievements and were accepted to a 4-year college/university.
- CEF launched PEAKS, a new scholarship for Graduate Students who possess an undergraduate degree (BA or BS) from an accredited US University or College and were accepted to an accredited graduate school in the United States. Five students were awarded \$2,000 each.

## MERIT ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP



Students Applied





Churches





**Awarded** 



#### **PEAKS**



Students Applied





Churches





**Awarded** 





ST. MARY OF EGYPT



ST. MARY OF EGYPT





ST. ANTONIUS CHURCH



ST. GEORGE THE MARTYR, SAN JACINTO



ST. PETER & PAUL, SANTA MONICA

The Merit Achievement Scholarship is not just about excelling academically, but also about excelling in the non-academic. This is what helps a student stand out in their college application!

# **Partnerships**

In partnership with the organizations listed below, CEF amplified our impact on the members of our community:

- American Career College: CEF continued to support people who were interested in attending trade or vocational schools
- Princeton Review: CEF offered discounted rates for SAT preparation classes
- Revolution Prep: CEF connected interested 6th 12th grade students with Unlimited Homework Help
- Global Grid for Learning: CEF signed a partnership agreement with GG4L to offer a discounted rate for a library of online technology skills trainings available through Coursera.org

























"Blessings, participation, commitment, partnership and support are the core beliefs of CEF" -Cherif Youssef

# Our Mission

Empower students to pursue higher education and equip them with the appropriate resources, guidance and tools to reach their academic and professional potential.



# Our Values

**Passion** 

- Togetherness
  Our program leaders, mentors and students partner in a constant pursuit of excellence.
  - partner in a constant pursuit of excellence. We come together with a deep sense of pride in what we do, how we do it, and who we do it for.
- Our passion is rooted in dedication and diligence. We are driven by an ethos of support and openness that respects diversity, facilitates communication and makes collaboration constructive.
- Success

  We believe in recognizing and celebrating the achievements and success of our youth as they build a brighter future.

# Our Team

Our Board and Staff are dedicated to using their skills and talents to unlock the true potential of our youth.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Nabih Youssef: Co-Founder & CEO Cherif Youssef: Co-Founder & COO

George Hanna
Michael Habashi
Mina Hanin
Margaret Mansour
Dalya Mikhail
Howaida Wassily-Doss
Sherry William



Amany Hanna Corporate Secretary & Relationship Manager



**Hani Philobbos**Branding & Digital
Marketing Consultant



Peter Habib Program Coordinator



Sandy Ghoubrial
Assistant Director
& Educational
Counselor



Justina Antoon Program Coordinator



Katherine Hanna Education Counselor



### **PARTNERS**















