**Bee’s Light & Legacy Scholarship Fund**

**WHY**

Thearack “Bee” Tham Kith was born to immigrant parents and was the youngest of 3 siblings. He was kind, loving and forgiving. He was loved by anyone and everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. In the 34 years he walked this earth, he made an impact. He was full of light. That light, however, was darkened too soon.

On October 7, 2019, Bee was called home. He had been battling with addiction since his early 20’s. He sought help from family and traditional treatments such as detoxification hospitalization and rehabilitation, which led to many sober days, weeks, and months. He had plans. He loved cooking. He loved his family. He wanted to help people struggling with addiction like he did.

KITHS will shine Bee’s light and carry on his legacy through a fund created to help individuals who is struggling with addiction and is in recovery.

**WHO**

This fund is open to anyone who is in active recovery treatment or who is now pursuing education as the next step in their recovery. Active treatment looks different for everyone as no two people experience behavioral health and addiction in the same way. Likewise, education is not limited to traditional university tracks. It can include courses to prepare one to get their G.E.D, trade school, certificates of training, or many other ways that people can acquire new information or skills.

Consistent with KITHS mission to support Asian Americans, immigrants, and refugees we especially encourage immigrants and first-generation Asian Americans to apply. However, we recognize that addiction and particularly the opioid epidemic does not discriminate and that we are all vulnerable to its effects. Therefore, we will accept applications from any Philadelphian in recovery who meets the requirements of being in active treatment or pursuing education. It is also our mission to ensure *everyone* has an opportunity for independence, growth, healing, and development.

**WHAT**

When the scholarship is awarded it will provide $500 to the recipient to support their recovery either through treatment or education. The $500 can go to any related expense but the applicant must clearly outline the connection with their recovery.

**WHEN**

KITHS will begin reviewing applications in the Fall of 2020 and will award and notify applicants in Winter 2021. The scholarship will be awarded in the January 2021 with the exact date dependent on the recipient and planned use of the funds.

**HOW**

Anyone who is a Philadelphian in recovery is invited to apply for this scholarship. The application will include basic demographic information as well a one-page essay in which the applicant can tell their recovery story, what they will use the scholarship for, and why they believe KITHS should choose them. KITHS will accommodate those who are unable to or uncomfortable presenting their story in writing by holding in-person interviews. As this scholarship is a deeply personal project for the Kith family, all finalists may be invited to be interviewed prior to a decision being made.

**WHERE**

Applications are available for download on the KITHS website, [www.kithservices.org](http://www.kithservices.org) and can be submitted either via email, fax, snail mail, or dropped off in person to KITHS office.

Email: kiths@kithsinc.org

Fax: 215-914-6961

Address: 4923 Old York Road, 1st Floor, Phila. PA 19141