



# AMERICAN DRUZE SOCIETY

Houston Chapter

الجمعية الدرزية الاميركية

هيوسطن - تكساس



February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008

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*Mr. Souheil S. Ghaoui*

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*Dr. Samer Suki*

Dear Madam/Sir:

We are writing to ask for your support. As you know, The American Druze Society is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that strives to sustain the Druze identity and traditions while assisting in preserving the American family life, and by performing charitable and civic programs for the betterment of the home, family, and domestic relations. For example, the ADS Houston Chapter contributed assistance to Katrina evacuees in 2006, supported families affected by the California fires during summer 2007, and partially funded medical costs or assistance for needy families. The organization also supports fundraising efforts of other non-profit organizations such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital program.

The American Druze Society Houston Chapter has set up a Scholarship Program in order to offer financial assistance for undergraduate college level students. Your support will greatly enhance the future of talented and deserving young people who demonstrate a determination to achieve higher learning despite the many challenges facing them.

In the spring of 2007, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Scholarship event raised \$20,000. During the 2nd annual fundraiser coming up on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at the Sheraton Suites, the first scholarship beneficiary will be announced. This year, we will only be able to present one scholarship award for \$1,500. We have ambitious goals to reach in the next few years, towards a higher fund endowment level. In future years, our hope is to be able to award more than one student with a larger gift amount.

The pursuit of an excellent education in the hope of a better future is continually challenged with rising costs of tuition. Room and board and other living expenses such as gas, insurance, and cost of books incurred during the college years are also on the rise. Many students face the sad reality of impeding their ambitions of a college education. At the present time, there are more than 100 children in the Houston ADS community that could potentially benefit from such a scholarship program. In about 7 years, there will be, at once, more than a dozen candidates applying for college. It is our sincere hope and wish for this program to have the ability to award as many as possible for that year.



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We, at the ADS Houston Chapter, remain committed to a clear guiding mission and to clear guiding values. Our children are the seeds of the future. We have faith, hope, and unconditional love for them. We want them to experience the enduring success that results from an excellent education. Such excellence requires a significant financial investment in their lives. We must remain steadfast in providing worthy ambitious youth the opportunity for a value added higher education.

We share these beliefs with you hoping to inspire you to action. It bears repeating that there is no greater privilege and honor than to touch the heart, inspire the mind, and lead a child to a brighter future. At ADS Houston Chapter, we remain committed to this important and most noble goal. After all, we get but one chance in the life of each child in need!

We truly hope that you will respond positively. Every donation, large or small, would be greatly appreciated. We also look forward to you joining us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Scholarship benefit "Handful of Seed". We want you to be part of this historic moment when we present the very first award.

With much sincerity,

The Scholarship Committee

Souheil Ghaoui  
President  
ADS Houston Chapter

Nizar Charafeddine, MD  
Committee Chair