

## ***The Starfish Parable***



***One day an old man was walking along the beach. It was low tide, and the sand was littered with thousands of stranded starfish that the water had carried in and then left behind.***

***The man began walking very carefully so as not to step on any of the beautiful creatures. Since the animals still seemed to be alive, he considered picking some of them up and putting them back in the water, where they could resume their lives.***

***The man knew the starfish would die if left on the beach's dry sand but he reasoned that he could not possibly help them all, so he chose to do nothing and continued walking.***

***Soon afterward, the man came upon a small child on the beach who was frantically throwing one starfish after another back into the sea. The old man stopped and asked the child, "What are you doing?"***

***"I'm saving the starfish," the child replied.***

***"Why waste your time?... There are so many you can't save them all so why does it matter?", asked the man.***

***Without hesitation, the child picked up another starfish and tossed the starfish back into the water... "It matters to this one," the child said.***

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### ***JMJ Fund Goals & Results***

***The Jeffrey Milano-Johnson Memorial Fund supports scholarships for Rochester city youth, services targeting Rochester families and bereavement advocacy and support. The Fund allows Jeff's zest for life and his love of people to continue well into the future.***

### ***JMJ Memorial Scholarships***

***Rochester City School District Students***

***The JMJ Memorial Fund sponsors a scholarship program for Rochester city school district seniors who have characteristics similar to Jeff's and meet other criteria.***

***In 2012, several multi-year scholarships of \$1000 each will be awarded to scholarship recipients. In 2011, Angel Andino and Charlisa Dailey received JMJ Memorial Scholarships. Other scholarship recipients in this category include Janneshia Cole, Rubi Partida, Dianalis Polanco, and Kadre Roberts.***

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### ***Bereavement Advocacy and Support Services***

***The JMJ Fund, together with the Josh Rojas Foundation, supports an annual Ceremony of Remembrance of children of age age who have died. This event is held on the second Sunday in December to help families through the holidays, one of the most difficult times of the year for parents/families who have lost a child.***

***In 2012, the JMJ Fund began in earnest to work on: an initiative focused on helping the media better understand the needs of bereaved families and another focused on helping physicians develop the skills needed to inform families that their loved one has died. The funds also support advanced care planning.***