

S P I R I T

of SouthArk
P R E S I D E N T ' S A W A R D

Murphy Oil

Murphy Oil has been a strong corporate partner to South Arkansas Community College, as well as the local community, for decades. The company's philanthropic commitment has had a positive impact on the lives of an incredible number of students.



Murphy Oil provided a \$5 million gift toward funding construction of the El Dorado Conference Center, which in addition to being the region's premier meeting space, also houses SouthArk's student services offices which meet the various needs of thousands of students every year.

The company also provided more than \$200,000 to fund the startup of Stepping Stones, a SouthArk program for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Now known as the Academic and Career Achievement Program, it offers instruction in independent living skills, social activities and work-related internship opportunities to support both academic and social growth of students.

Murphy employees have given countless hours of their time and experience by serving on college boards, advisory committees and ad hoc committees for various college initiatives. Through their employee gift matching program, the company encourages employee philanthropic giving—1 to 1 for charities, 2 to 1 for educational institutions such as SouthArk. Through corporate gifts and employee matching gifts, Murphy has donated more than \$300,000 to SouthArk in the past 20 years.

In addition, many students at SouthArk have benefited from Murphy Oil's El Dorado Promise, a scholarship program for students who graduate from El Dorado High School. Over the lifetime of the program, of the 2,500 EHS graduates who have accepted the El Dorado Promise, 822 have used their scholarships at SouthArk at some point in their college careers, averaging 68 new Promise students per year. These students have been awarded a total of 647 degrees and certificates.

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