Linda Culver worked tirelessly for her community. Her legacy will continue to benefit that same community.

Culver, a former Girl Scout and board member of the Land of Lincoln Girl Scout Council, passed away in 2000 at the age of 47. In her honor, friends and family quickly organized the Linda S. Culver Memorial Scholarship to be administered by the local Girl Scout Council.

“She was very much a community leader,” said former LLGS board member Bev Neisler, “a really great person and someone who was always championing causes for the community.”

Recent organizational changes in the Girl Scouts forced the local Girl Scouts to find a new operating home for the fund. The Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln is that new home with the establishment of the Linda S. Culver Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Community Foundation’s history of running scholarship funds was the catalyst for it receiving the fund.

“I know the value of the Community Foundation,” Neisler said. “It seems to be a really good fit. The Community Foundation, that’s what they are there for, to accept and grant scholarships.”

Culver, who was Executive Vice President of Illinois National Bank in Springfield, was very active in the Springfield community, serving on numerous community boards. Her professional success and giving nature is something that embodied the Girl Scouts’ mission.

“She was a wonderful community leader,” said Sue Clark, former Executive Director of the Land of Lincoln Girl Scout Council. “She was a woman we were so proud of. We felt she was a mentor to other women and young girls. She used that very effectively.”

The scholarship is a $1,000 one-year award being offered to area Girl Scouts who are still active and who are enrolled as a junior, senior or graduate candidate in an accredited college or university. Special consideration will be given to those who have received the Girl Scout Gold Award. Past recipients are eligible to apply.