

Biography



Stephanie Tinsley Regagnon

Founder and Executive Director

Stephanie Regagnon is Founder and Executive Director of Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation.

Regagnon founded Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation (ASGF) in March 2010 following an eye-opening experience with the American justice and penal system which included the arrest and four year incarceration of her mother. While visiting her mother in prison, Stephanie met many children whose lives were irrevocably changed as a result of the mistakes of their parents and who were forced to sacrifice their dreams of higher education as a result of their circumstances. Determined to turn an incredibly negative experience into something positive, Regagnon made it her mission to change the lives of children affected by incarceration through the gift of higher education.

As well as being the Founder and Executive Director of Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation, Stephanie Regagnon has a successful career with fifteen years of experience in public and governmental affairs and sustainability for the agriculture industry. She is the Ag Biologicals Engagement Lead for Monsanto, a company committed to sustainable agriculture.

Regagnon holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Missouri and a M.A. in political science from American University. Among her many awards and accolades, Stephanie was chosen in 2012 as one of St. Louis Business Journal's "40 Under 40"; in 2014, she was recognized by Ameren's "Community Lights Contest" as someone who lights up her community through acts of service in support of causes and organizations close to her heart; also in 2014 she was accepted into the Griffith's Leadership Society for Women at the University of Missouri; in 2004, she was selected to participate in Missouri's Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow program; and she is a past president of the St. Louis Agri-Business Club.

About Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation—

Ava's Grace Scholarship Foundation is an innovative, one of a kind non-profit entity whose mission is to break the cycle of incarceration through the gift of education. AGSF awards scholarships for higher education annually to children of incarcerated parents in the state of Missouri. Beginning in 2012, AGSF awarded the first two \$5,000 scholarships and is currently supporting four scholars in Missouri. In 2014, that number will increase to eight scholars. Before AGSF, there were no scholarship or mentor programs in Missouri or the Midwest aimed at assisting in the attainment of higher education aspirations of children impacted by incarceration. AGSF scholarships can be used at four-year colleges and universities and two-year degree programs, trade, and technical schools. The scholarships are renewable every year the student stays in school and performs satisfactorily in their program as defined by their institution.



For more information:

www.avasgrace.org

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