

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

Children's Defense Fund provides a strong, effective and independent voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. Children's Defense Fund educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, drop out of school, get into trouble or suffer family breakdown.

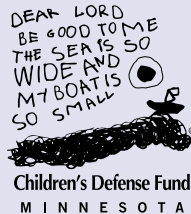


**HONORARY CHAIRS**

Judy and Steven Schumeister

**EVENT CHAIRS**

Sarenja DeCandia-Betz, Nicole Liwienski  
and Tasya Rosenfeld Kelen



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20 years



## 2012 Honorees



Congratulations to the 2012 Beat the Odds® scholarship recipients Raymond Perez, Anne Sinner, Lashay Thompson, and Eduardo Sanchez Beltran.

## 20th Annual Celebration

**FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2012**

Silent Auction | Reception 6:00 p.m.

Dinner | Awards Ceremony 8:00 p.m.

The Depot, 225 Third Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55401

**RSVP by March 1, 2012**

Presented by Fallon

Sponsored by UCare; Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P.;

Delta Dental of Minnesota; Thomson Reuters; and

UnitedHealth Group

Please join us in Children's Defense Fund–Minnesota's 20th annual Beat the Odds® celebration, honoring four outstanding high schools students who have overcome tremendous adversity, demonstrated academic excellence and given back to their communities.

The program identifies and rewards young people who have experienced significant hardship in their lives and supports and trains them to become future leaders in adulthood. Beat the Odds® has continued to inspire community leaders and citizens who not only want to help children struggling to overcome adversity, but to work to prevent children from having to face difficulties in the first place.

*strength, hope, courage*