



The Howley Foundation Grantee Spotlight: Williamson College of the Trades

MISSION:

To prepare deserving young men to be respected leaders and productive members of society.

THE NEED:

The skilled labor shortage in America continues to grow, and the need for trade schools could not be clearer. That's why schools like Williamson College of the Trades have planned for an increase in enrollment and why expanding their capacity has become a top priority. Coupled with the rising costs of post-secondary education, it's more important than ever to mitigate tuition barriers for families who are struggling financially.

PROUD PROGRAM MOMENT:

In 2022, Williamson welcomed its largest freshman class in school history, the Class of 2025, with 124 freshmen beginning their three-year Williamson journey.

WHAT THE HOWLEY FOUNDATION FUNDED:

Support is being provided through a two-pronged approach:

- 1) \$7 million to build a new dorm to increase capacity; and
- 2) \$3.3 million in Howley Scholarships over 10 years to help recruit students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

WHY THE HOWLEY FOUNDATION FUNDED THIS WORK:

The Howley Foundation and Williamson College of the Trades are working toward the same end—to increase social and economic mobility and improve lives through educational opportunity.

Upon visiting Williamson College of the Trades, board members of The Howley Foundation were impressed with the school's outstanding employment placement record and their ability to provide a shorter educational path at minimal cost. Williamson's core values complement those of the Foundation, providing a natural opportunity to work together in delivering a debt-free, moral and character education in the trades to disadvantaged young men.

"Williamson has helped me secure my future. I am becoming the man I want to be through discipline, structure, and adhering to the core values. At Williamson, I have the opportunity to turn my life around. I am very grateful to The Howley Foundation for my scholarship."

— Justin Williams, Class of 2024, Machine Tool Technology

ABOUT WILLIAMSON COLLEGE OF THE TRADES:

- Founded in 1888 by Philadelphia merchant and philanthropist Isaiah Vansant Williamson, the goal of Williamson College of the Trades was to provide greater opportunities for financially disadvantaged young men.
- Located in Media, PA (just outside of Philadelphia).
- Total enrollment is approximately 275 students.
- Approximate student/faculty ratio is 16:1.
- Core values: Faith, Integrity, Diligence, Excellence, and Service.
- Associate degrees in Specialized Technology can be earned in six program areas:
 - o Carpentry
 - o Masonry
 - o Machine Tool
 - o Landscape Construction
 - o Power Plant
 - o Electrical

A UNIQUE APPROACH TO OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION:

- Over the course of three years, students receive a broad education that includes the study of trade and technical theory in the classroom and through hands-on projects.
- General academic instruction is also provided to foster future career success.
- All students attend on full scholarships that cover tuition, room, and board.
- All students live on campus and are held to a Code of Conduct consistent with the school's core values, which includes a requirement to help with food service and campus maintenance.