



**Monthly Student Spotlight:
Silvio Chaviano, Jr.
La Progresiva Presbyterian School
Miami, Fla.**



Eighth-grader Silvio Chaviano Jr. is enjoying his first year at La Progresiva Presbyterian School, a school he was able to attend through the use of a Step Up For Students Scholarship. Silvio's new school provides a positive and safe environment in which he can thrive and reach his full potential.

Before receiving a Step Up For Students Scholarship from the scholarship funding organization Florida PRIDE, Silvio attended a middle school where fights among students were an everyday occurrence and the teachers were not able to assist him with his own academic needs. Although Silvio had many friends at the school, his grades were suffering and his mother, Olga, feared for his safety. Moreover, Olga, dreaded sending him to his assigned public high school, where the school violence was even worse – including a history of on-campus gunfights. Determined to fight for her son's safety and future, Olga applied for a Step Up For Students Scholarship from

Florida PRIDE. Shortly thereafter, Silvio's application was approved, giving Olga the ability to choose the best educational setting for her son. She found the perfect setting for Silvio at La Progresiva Presbyterian School in Miami.

Now Olga has a piece of mind knowing that she is sending her child to a school where he will be safe and secure and the teachers will give him the attention he needs. Additionally, Olga is proud of the improvement she has seen in Silvio's grades and overall motivation. She was so happy when Silvio brought home a report card with all A's and B's – a significant improvement from the C's and D's he was receiving at his old school. Additionally, Silvio has begun to dream about his future – he hopes to become a member of the SWAT team. Until then, you can find Silvio hanging out with his new friends, playing basketball and football (his favorite sport) and, of course, doing homework.

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About La Progresiva Presbyterian School

Located in Miami, La Progresiva Presbyterian School currently serves 300 students. Of the total student population, 105 are Step Up For Students scholarship recipients. Additionally, 90 percent of the students are Hispanic, with the remaining 10 percent equally split between African American and Caucasian students. Tuition is \$3,890 for elementary school students and \$4,100 for high school students.

About the Step Up For Students Scholarship Recipients

The typical Step Up For Students scholarship family has an average income of \$22,074 for a family of four, and more than half of the scholarship families are single-parent homes. The typical scholarship student is an ethnic minority living with a struggling single parent/caregiver in a high crime community. They are either below grade level, failing at their previous school or both when they receive a scholarship. Parents, who find their children in these circumstances and care about their future, look for viable options. Parents apply for Step Up For Students Scholarships so their children can attend the school best suited for their special needs, beliefs, and abilities, and to address negative trends in their child's learning skills and/or environment.

Step Up For Students Scholarships are funded by corporations that redirect up to 75 percent of their corporate state income tax liability to a qualified Scholarship Funding Organization in exchange for a dollar-for-dollar tax credit. For more information or to learn how your corporation can participate in the program, visit www.StepUpForStudents.com, or call 1-877-677-KIDS for more information.

