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SILVER SHIELD FOUNDATION

## Trooper's children awarded funds

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NEWS STAFF REPORTER

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The three children of Trooper Kevin P. Dobson, who was fatally injured during a traffic stop on the Youngmann Highway in March, were awarded a total of \$60,000 in educational funds from the Silver Shield Foundation, the organization announced Wednesday.

The foundation pledged \$20,000 to Kevin P. Jr., 17; Jamie K., 15; and Brooke L., 4, to assist in defraying the cost of tuition, tutoring or other educational costs.

“In the wake of this tragedy, we want the Dobson family to know that they are not alone in their loss,” said William G. Walters, chairman of the Silver Shield Foundation. “Providing these educational funds is a small way of showing that Trooper Dobson’s years of service, and the legacy of his dedication and commitment, will always be remembered.”

Dobson, 43, of Grand Island, a 14-year State Police veteran, was killed early March 26 when he was struck by another vehicle while out of his patrol car after pulling another driver over for speeding.

Wednesday's announcement is the latest honor for Dobson, who was a leader in traffic safety enforcement and drug interdiction. In May, the State Police Superintendent's Traffic Safety Award was officially named for Dobson during the agency's annual awards ceremony.

Although the Silver Shield Foundation typically endows educational funds to the children of law enforcement and firefighters killed in the line of duty within a 75-mile radius of Manhattan, members of the State Police are among the 100,000 members it covers.

"[Dobson's] untimely death was not only a profound loss to his family, but to the entire New York community as well," Walters said.

In recent years, the organization has extended its generosity upstate. It also pledged \$20,000 each to the 1-year-old son of Trooper Joseph Longobardo, who was ambushed and killed by Ralph "Bucky" Phillips in Chautauqua County in 2006, and to the children of a Syracuse-area trooper who died during a 2006 crash during a high-speed chase.

The Silver Shield Foundation, which was founded in 1982 by late New York Yankees owner George

M. Steinbrenner and late U. S. Olympic shot put champion James

E. Fuchs, relies solely on contributions. To make a donation, visit [www. silvershield foundation.org](http://www.silvershieldfoundation.org).