**Why does Gregg’s Goals focus on soccer players?**

Soccer (football) had been called “The beautiful game” ... and for those of us who love it. .. that is so true!. However, after 8 years of giving this scholarship, it has made us also reflect on the additional value of soccer.

We originally targeted soccer players for our scholarship, because of Gregg’s love for the game. . .and knowing that only the very top players will get any athletic scholarships for the sport. But, over the years, as we have read the essays written by these young people. . .we have become more committed to our focus.

For many of these young people, soccer is an outlet or escape from family problems, absent parents, poverty and even gangs. They can release emotions playing the game. They have to keep their grades up to play in high school. It gives them a positive peer group. . .and a way to expend their youthful energy. Many of them give back by coaching younger players. .. or doing community service.

So, the beautiful game becomes more than the game itself. . .it has helped these young people find a path to their future. . .and we are so pleased to be able to help them along that path!