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Contact: Lori Ristau, Executive Director, Iowa Health Care Association Foundation 800-422-3106 | Iori@iowahealthcare.org

IHCA Foundation Offers Health Care Scholarships for Long-Term Care Employees, Veterans and High School Students

75 scholarships now available; applications due May 31

West Des Moines, Iowa – The Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) Foundation is offering 75 scholarships, totaling \$167,500 to help individuals interested in pursuing or advancing their career in long-term care. This is up from 33 scholarships offered last year. Scholarship opportunities are available for current long-term care employees, veterans and high school students.

"As the past year has demonstrated, our health care workers are so vitally important. We are grateful to have this opportunity, thanks to our generous donors, to grow our scholarship program to support those who are interested in joining the profession and building a long-term career," said Lori Ristau, executive director, IHCA Foundation. "For those who choose this profession, it is not just a job; it is a calling. It is a way to build and apply skills to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, while working in a career that is in high-demand and provides exciting opportunities for advancement."

Scholarship Offerings

The IHCA Foundation is now accepting applications for the following scholarships:

- John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Registered Nurse (RN) Scholarship This two-year scholarship will provide \$3,000 each year to those selected and pursuing a RN degree, with a total amount of \$6,000 in scholarship per recipient. A total of 11 scholarships are available. In addition, this scholarship includes the full registration fee for the recipient to attend one day of the IHCA Convention. To be eligible, applicants must be working toward a RN degree and be a current employee of an IHCA member organization. Winners will be recognized during the IHCA Convention on Tuesday, Sept. 28.
- John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Scholarship This scholarship will provide \$3,000 to those selected and pursuing an LPN degree for the 2021-2022 academic year. A total of 10 scholarships are available. In addition, this scholarship includes the full registration fee for the recipient to attend one day of the IHCA Convention. To be eligible, applicants must be working toward an LPN degree and be a current employee of an IHCA member organization. Winners will be recognized during the IHCA Convention on Tuesday, Sept. 28.
- Juckette Family Veteran Scholarship This \$2,000 scholarship is for individuals who are currently serving, or have served, in the U.S. military, National Guard or reserves and are pursuing a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), LPN, RN, certified dietary manager, certified activity professional, social services certification or reimbursement-related certification (MDS, OASIS) program in Iowa. Five of these scholarships are available.

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• IHCA Member Employee Scholarship – This scholarship for employees of IHCA, Iowa Center for Assisted Living (ICAL) and Iowa Center for Home Care (ICHC) member organizations looking to advance their health care education. This year, 25 scholarships, at \$1,500 each, are available for employees interested in pursuing nursing, health care administration, physical or occupational therapy programs.

 High School Scholarship Made Possible by MolinaCares – This \$1,000 scholarship, made possible by MolinaCares, is for Iowa high school seniors, who are in their senior year during the 2020-2021 academic year, and enrolling in a CNA, LPN, RN or Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program for the 2021-2022 academic year. It is intended for those interested in a future career in long-term care. Twenty-four scholarships are available.

How to Apply

Eligibility requirements, application guidelines and materials are available online at iowahealthcare.org/foundation. Completed applications are due by May 31.

Winners will be announced in July.

Scholarship Sponsors

These scholarships would not be possible without the generous support of these sponsors:

John R. and Zelda Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation, MolinaCares Foundation, Care Initiatives, Linda Juckette Family Gift Fund, Iowa Council of Nurse Leaders, NE IHCA District, SW IHCA District, Encounter Telehealth, Iowa Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, Brent Willett, NW IHCA District, SE IHCA District, The Vetter Foundation, Dave and Susan Dixon, HPSI Purchasing Services, Right Dose, a Guardian Pharmacy, Lee Agency, Christina Schable, Clarence Nursing Home, Maple Crest Manor and Assisted Living, Lori Ristau, Jessica McDyer, Cheryl Mercer, Holly Turner and ACCESS/Background Journeys.

About the Iowa Health Care Association Foundation

Founded in 1988 by the Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA), the mission of the IHCA Foundation is to foster excellence in long-term care for Iowans by building a stronger workforce. The IHCA Foundation carries out this mission by empowering individuals to reach their career goals in the long-term care profession through scholarships, career education and career access programs. IHCA Foundation programs help support career opportunities available in the long-term care continuum, including nursing facilities, assisted living programs, residential care facilities, senior living communities and home health agencies.

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