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Iowa Health Care Association Foundation Awards 72 Scholarships to High School Students, Long-Term Care Employees and Veterans

West Des Moines, Iowa – The Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) Foundation has announced the winners of its 2021 scholarship program. Seventy-two Iowans have been awarded scholarships, totaling \$160,000, to pursue an education in health care. Award winners included current Iowa long-term care employees, veterans and high school students.

“The IHCA Foundation is committed to helping develop experienced professionals to meet the growing needs of Iowans for long-term care. This year, we have expanded our scholarship program to meet the needs of these professionals, whether they are a student just joining the profession, an experienced veteran who wants to transfer their medical experience to long-term care, or a tenured long-term care employee seeking a higher degree of education. This scholarship program provides an important opportunity for the recipients to build knowledge and skills in a critically important profession,” said Lori Ristau, executive director, IHCA Foundation. “These scholarship recipients are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to pursuing such a noble profession of helping others.”

The IHCA Foundation scholarship program includes the following types of scholarships:

- **John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Registered Nurse (RN) Scholarship** - This \$6,000 scholarship is sponsored by the John R. and Zelda Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation, and it is for employees of IHCA member organizations pursuing an RN degree. Eleven of these scholarships were awarded.
- **John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Scholarship** - This \$3,000 scholarship is sponsored by the John R. and Zelda Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation, and it is for employees of IHCA member organizations pursuing an LPN degree. Ten of these scholarships were awarded.
- **Juckette Family Veteran Scholarship** - This \$2,000 scholarship, sponsored by the Linda Juckette Family Gift Fund, is for those who have served or are currently serving in the U.S. military, National Guard or Reserves and are interested in pursuing nursing programs or certification programs for dietary management, activities, social services or reimbursement professionals in Iowa, with the goal of working in long-term care. Two of these scholarships were awarded.
- **Member Employee Scholarship Program** - This \$1,500 scholarship is for current employees working for an IHCA member organization and seeking to advance their health care education. Twenty-five of these scholarships were awarded.

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- **High School Student Scholarship, made possible by The MolinaCares Accord** – This \$1,000 scholarship is for Iowa high school seniors enrolling in a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), LPN, RN or Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program and interested in a career in long-term care. Twenty-four of these scholarships were awarded.

Scholarship applicants are evaluated by the IHCA Foundation Board of Directors based upon the applicant's experience, recommendations and future educational and career goals in long-term care.

John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Registered Nurse (RN) Scholarship Recipients

Amy Robards, Accura Healthcare of Milford, Milford
 Breanna Teymer, Monticello Nursing and Rehab, Monticello
 Emily Collier, SunnyBrook Home Care, Inc., Fairfield
 Emmanuel Tarr, Meadowview Memory Care Village – Cedar Rapids, Cedar Rapids
 Heather Ray, Scottish Rite Park Health Care Center, Des Moines
 Kaleb Kenyon, Pioneer Valley Living and Rehab, Sergeant Bluff
 Kylie Wilberding, Buchanan County Health Center (Lexington Estate), Independence
 Mariam Berry, The Views of Marion, Marion
 Pauline Gikonyo, Solon Retirement Village, Solon
 Ruthann Lallier, Good Samaritan Society – Algona, Algona
 Tatiana Hedgman, The Views of Marion, Marion

John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Scholarship Recipients

Amanda Hanson, Great River Care Center, McGregor
 Annie Vanden Brink, Aspen Heights Assisted Living, Hull
 Ashley Oltman, Creekside, Inc. (Western Home Communities), Grundy Center
 Brianna Tschida, Longhouse – Northshire Ltd., Spencer
 Elizabeth Reynolds, Humboldt County Memorial Hospital, Humboldt
 Erin Key, Wellington Place, Decorah
 Kendra Kahler, Essence of Life Hospice, Amana
 Kendyl Irwin, Adel Acres, Adel
 Mary Schmitt, Community Memorial Health Center, Everly
 Tracy Raisch, Scenic Living Communities, Iowa Falls

IHCA Member Employee Scholarship Recipients

Abigail Cross, Solon Retirement Village, Solon (SE)
 Amanda Long, Laurens Care Center, Laurens (NW)
 Andrea Larison, Northcrest Living Center, Council Bluffs (SW)
 Aubree Fairley, Monticello Nursing and Rehab Center, Monticello (NE)
 Brooke Diekmann, Accura Healthcare of Carroll, Carroll (SW)
 Dylan Spina, Keystone Nursing Care Center, Keystone (NE)
 Emilie Hass, Good Neighbor Society, Manchester (NE)
 Erin Schieltz, Madrid Home for the Aging, Madrid (SW)
 Hadley Tice, St. Francis Manor, Grinnell (SE)
 Jack Felton, Solon Retirement Village, Solon (SE)
 Jenna Geopfert, Crestview Nursing and Rehab – Webster City, Webster City (NW)
 Jolene Haas, Good Neighbor Society, Manchester (NE)
 Katelyn Lee, Urbandale Health Care Center, Urbandale (SW)
 Kyla Gehring, The Views of Marion, Marion (NW)
 Leah Benzing, Elkader Care Center, Elkader (NE)
 Madeline Janssen, Community Care Center, Inc., Stuart (SW)
 Melanie Matiyabo, Pleasantview Home, Kalona

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Melissa Reed, Solon Retirement Village, Solon (SE)
Nicole Sander, Clarence Senior Living, Clarence (SE)
Paige Andrea, Apple Valley Assisted Living, Clear Lake (NE)
Rosemary Hibbs, Longhouse - Northshire Ltd., Spencer (NW)
Sara Etter, Anamosa Care Center, Anamosa (NE)
Sara Kwekel, Fellowship Village, Inwood (NW)
Saraha Leclair, Maple Heights Nursing Home, Mapleton (NW)
Shanna Keller, Care Initiatives, Creston (SW)

Juckette Family Veteran Scholarship Recipients

Chelsea Apel, Army National Guard, Charles City
Olivia Koechle, Army National Guard, Fort Madison

The MolinaCares Accord High School Scholarship Recipients

Aaron Seymour, Dowling Catholic High School, West Des Moines
Allison Barnhart, Monticello High School, Monticello
Ally Faulkner, Charles City High School, Charles City
Ana Koch, Iowa City High School, Iowa City
Annabel Neumann, Burlington Community High School, Donnellson
Bailey McLaughlin, Pella Community High School, Pella
Brittany Willadsen, Charles City High School, Floyd
Calli Garner, Interstate 35 High School, Lorimor
Cynthia Gomez, Waterloo East High School, Waterloo
Elizabeth Ross, Grundy Center Community High School, Grundy Center
Emma VanDevander, Waukee High School, Urbandale
Faith McNamara, Cedar Falls High School, Cedar Falls
Jena Yonker, Nodaway Valley High School, Stuart
Jenna Beazley, Lawton Bronson High School, Sioux City
Kaelan Bohn, Bondurant-Farrar High School, Bondurant
Katelyn Woodward, Waukee High School, West Des Moines
Kaylee Shanks, Indianola High School, Ackworth
Kelli Fink, Interstate 35 High School, Truro
Kyla Cunningham, North High School, Sioux City
Marah Larsen, Southwest Valley High School, Corning
McKenna Pettepier, Lewis Central High School, Council Bluffs
Samantha Adams-Brown, Indianola High School, Indianola
Sierra Loger, Dike-New Hartford High School, Dike
Vanessa Gaul, Western Dubuque High School, Dyersville

Scholarship Sponsors

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

John R. and Zeldia Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation, The MolinaCares Accord, 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.

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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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