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52 Iowans Receive Scholarships to Work in Long-Term Care from Iowa Health Care Association Foundation

West Des Moines, Iowa – Fifty-two Iowans who want to advance their health care education to work in long-term care received over \$100,000 in scholarships from the Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) Foundation this week. Scholarship recipients include current long-term care employees, as well as high school students and veterans wanting to join the health care profession. Scholarships provide for the cost of a variety of health care and leadership programs to equip health care workers with the skills they need to work in long-term care.

“The IHCA Foundation is committed to helping develop experienced professionals to meet Iowa’s growing need for long-term care,” said Lori Ristau, executive director of the IHCA Foundation. “It is inspiring to see the outpouring of interest in working in long-term care among the scholarship applicants. This year’s scholarship recipients are to be commended for their dedication and commitment to pursuing such a noble profession of helping others.”

The IHCA Foundation has a long history of offering scholarships to advance the skills needed for those interested in working in the long-term care profession. This year, the IHCA Foundation added two new scholarships, with one for directors of nursing (DONs) working in long-term care and the other for current long-term care employees interested in growing their leadership skills.

More than 150 applications were received for this year’s scholarships. Scholarship applications were 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. This year’s IHCA Foundation scholarship winners include:

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

This \$3,000 scholarship is made possible by the John R. and Zelda Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation and is for employees of IHCA member organizations pursuing an RN degree. Ten of these scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Ashley Oltman, Creekside, Inc.
2. Aubree Fairley, Monticello Nursing and Rehabilitation
3. Elizabeth Magsino, Spurgeon Manor
4. Emily Kuiken, Happy Siesta Nursing Home
5. Emma Dewey, The Mayflower Community
6. Erin Schieltz, Madrid Home for the Aging
7. Hadley Tice, St. Francis Manor/Hammond Center & Oak Park Estates
8. Katie Gescheidler, Green Hills Community
9. Lucero Zalabowski, Accura of Milford
10. Rachel Henriksen, Accura of Bancroft

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Linda Juckette Family Veteran and Rural Scholarship Winners

This \$2,000 scholarship is made possible by the Linda Juckette Family Gift Fund and is for Iowans residing in a rural Iowa county or having served in the military and interested in pursuing nursing or health care administration programs or certification programs for dietary management, activities, social services or reimbursement professionals in Iowa, with the goal of working in long-term care. Five of these scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Chelsea Apel (Veteran – Army)
2. Josie Schultz (Rural – Crawford County)
3. Rachel Miner (Rural – Palo Alto County)
4. Shelby Rowe (Rural – Franklin County)
5. Tasha Stauffer (Veteran – Army)

MolinaCares High School Scholarship Winners

This \$2,000 scholarship, made possible by The Molina Healthcare Charitable Foundation (MolinaCares), is for Iowa high school seniors enrolled in a certified nursing assistant (CNA), licensed practical nurse (LPN), registered nurse (RN), associate of science in nursing (ASN) or Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) program upon graduation from high school, and interested in a future career in long-term care. Nine of these scholarships were awarded.

1. Alayna Dunlavey, Woodward-Granger High School
2. Ashlyn Gomez, MOC-Floyd Valley Community School District
3. Avary Darling, Winterset High School
4. Brookelyn Hemsley, Sigourney High School
5. Kirsten Albright, Mid-Prairie High School
6. Kooper Tweite, Riceville Community School
7. Maren Buckingham, Central Decatur Jr-Sr High School
8. Megan Elam, Abraham Lincoln High School
9. William Kluesner, Xavier High School

Iowa Total Care Executive Health Care Leadership Institute Scholarship Winners

This \$1,500 scholarship is for leaders at IHCA member organizations interested in attending the IHCA Executive Leadership Institute program and is made possible by Iowa Total Care. Nine scholarships were awarded.

1. Allison Plendl, Algona Manor Care Center
2. Amy Norton, Evans Memorial Home & Cresco Assisted Living
3. Carrie Reiling, Kennybrook Village
4. Gisele Carbone Kruger, Edgewood Convalescent Home
5. Jennifer Hacker, Friendship Home
6. Karah Appleget, Campbell Street Services
7. Katie Brice, Boyson Heights Senior Living
8. Leah Benzing, Wellington Place
9. Pam Harned, Karen Acres Healthcare Center

Care Initiatives Director of Nursing (DON) Scholarship Winners

This \$1,500 scholarship is for is for directors of nursing (DONs), assistant directors of nursing (ADONs) or registered nurses (RNs) interested in pursuing an ADON or DON position with an IHCA, ICAL or ICHC member organization, and is made possible by Care Initiatives. Six scholarships were awarded.

1. Bobbie Weber, St. Anthony Nursing Home
2. Lisa Miller, Atrium Village
3. Melissa Wolf, Good Samaritan of Algona
4. Molly Barker, Grandview Heights Nursing and Rehab
5. Stacy Willard, Humboldt County Memorial Hospital – LTC
6. Stephanie Hennings, Eastern Star Masonic Home

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IHCA Member Employee Scholarship Winners

This \$1,500 scholarship is for IHCA member organization employees pursuing a nursing, health care administration or physical or occupational therapy training program and is made possible by Iowa Society of Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, IHCA Districts and Iowa Council of Nurse Leaders. Thirteen scholarships were awarded.

1. Abigail Haynes, Strawberry Point Lutheran Home Community
2. Adelle Wolfswinkel, Prairie View Home Inn
3. Baylee Vanderflught, Clearview Home & Estates – Mt. Ayr
4. Beth Fleming, Klein Center (Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center)
5. Billie Lovell, Accura Healthcare of Pleasantville
6. Chanda Jensen, Boyson Heights Senior Living Community
7. Emma Sperfslage, Monicello Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
8. Karrie Hammond, Lakeside Senior Care
9. Kayla Paulson, Spurgeon Manor
10. Laura Knudtson, Solon Retirement Village
11. Melissa Burt, Accura Healthcare of Bancroft
12. Nia Clark-Wilkins, Living Center West
13. Phelan Birchmier, Green Hills Community

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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