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110 Iowans receive over \$300,000 in scholarships to work in long-term care from Iowa Health Care Association Foundation

West Des Moines, Iowa – Over 100 Iowans who want to advance their health care education to work in long-term care received over \$300,000 in scholarships from the Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) Foundation last week. Scholarship recipients include current long-term care employees, as well as high school students, veterans and Iowans in rural communities 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.

“With Iowa's senior population increasing and a growing demand for quality long-term care services, the IHCA Foundation is committed to developing skilled, caring professionals to meet these needs,” said IHCA Foundation Program Director Natalie Thompson. “Our 2024 scholarship programs, generously supported by donors, aim to empower motivated individuals to pursue careers in long-term care. The overwhelming interest among applicants is inspiring, and we commend this year’s scholarship recipients for their dedication to this noble profession. Having worked in various health care settings and receiving lifesaving care myself, I hold the utmost respect and gratitude for all health care professionals. Your work is truly invaluable, and we look forward to seeing the positive difference you will undoubtedly make in the lives of many.”

More than 240 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 Recipients

This \$4,000 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. Sixty-one scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Heather Aguilera, Prairie Vista Village
2. Kirsten Albright, Pleasantview
3. Chelsea Apel, Chautauqua Guest Home #3
4. Aubree Arthur, St. Francis Manor, Hammond Center and Seeland Park
5. Brynn Bass, Thomas Rest Haven
6. Jennifer Benefiel, Karen Acres Healthcare Center
7. Grace Blozovich, The Views of Marion
8. Katelynn Brown, Humboldt County Memorial Hospital
9. Katie Christensen, Kennybrook Village
10. Jofelle Corona, Western Home Communities
11. Azlynn Cota, Wellington Place
12. Bailey Dodson, Kensington
13. KayLee Donnelly, Accura Healthcare of Shenandoah
14. Carlee Fleming, Monticello Nursing & Rehab Center
15. Madison Forsyth, The Views of Marion
16. Katie Gescheidler, Green Hills Retirement Community

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17. Danielle Glissman, Humboldt County Memorial Hospital
18. Rosalee Gruhn, Hiawatha Care Center
19. Sophia Halifax, Spurgeon Manor
20. Rachel Halstrum, Windsor Manor Indianola
21. Lily Hammer, Accura Healthcare of Ogden
22. Calista Harbaugh, Harmony Waterloo
23. Abigail Haynes, Strawberry Point Lutheran Home Community
24. Tiffany Helle, Northcrest Community
25. Aireal Hemsted, Atrium Village
26. Sara Hoffman, Bethany life
27. Erika Holtz, Good Neighbor Society
28. Hannah Jones, Good Shepherd Health Center
29. Hallie Kemp, Hawkeye Care Center of Dubuque
30. Cameron Kent, Stonehill Communities
31. Erica King, Accura Healthcare of Spirit Lake
32. Julianne Laning, Kingsley Specialty Care
33. Alayna Link, Westview Acres Care Center
34. Kendra Lowe, St. Luke Lutheran Nursing Home
35. Jacqueline Lucas, Pleasantview
36. Elizabeth Magsino, Spurgeon Manor
37. Derick Mbacham, Care Initiatives
38. Madison Ollendieck, Evans Senior Living Community
39. Daniel Pakala, Western Home Communities
40. Kayla Paulson, Spurgeon Manor
41. Paul Perez, Spurgeon Manor
42. Patty Jo Petree, Southeast Iowa Medical Center - Klein Center
43. Mykenah Pothoff, Pinnacle Memory Care
44. Kennady Rathjen, Rose Haven Nursing Home
45. Aviana Rice-Miller, Family Care Solutions
46. Addison Roll, Eldora Specialty Care
47. Rebekah Rose, Methodist Manor Retirement Community
48. Paige Ryan, Kennybrook Village
49. Kasey Sandbulte, Palo Alto County Hospital NF & HH
50. Erin Schieltz, Madrid Home Communities
51. Maria Schockemhoehl, Stonehill Communities
52. Abby Smith, Anchor Homes Inc.
53. Eyon Steffensen, Exira Care Center
54. Abby Stout, Prairie View Home Inn
55. Francoise Swedi, Stonehill Communities
56. Brionna Vasey, Scottish Rite Park
57. Jazmyn Vazquez, Northcrest Community
58. Brandy Watson, Karen Acres Healthcare Center
59. Aubrey White, Karen Acres Healthcare Center
60. Adelle Wolfswinkel, Prairie View Home Inn
61. Lucero Zalabowski, Accura Healthcare of Milford

John W. & Kimberly D. Grubb Registered Nurse (RN) Endowment Fund Scholarship Recipient

This \$3,000 scholarship is made possible by the John R. and Zelda Z. Grubb Charitable Foundation Endowment Fund and is for an employee of an IHCA member organization pursuing an RN degree. One scholarship was awarded to the following recipient:

1. Hannah Eastlick, Cedar Ridge Village

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Linda Juckette Family Veteran and Rural Scholarship Recipients

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 scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Maren Buckingham, Decatur County
2. April Huckleberry, Army National Guard
3. Keatan Pfantz, Marshall County
4. Katy "Sylvie" Ricketts, Des Moines County
5. Kayla Stever, Allamakee County

MolinaCares High School Scholarship Recipients

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 scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Madelyn Anderson, Emmetsburg High School
2. Presley Anderson, George Washington High School
3. Olivia Gardner, Saint Albert Catholic
4. Joslynn McGilligan, Waterloo West High School
5. Emma Myers, South Central Calhoun High School
6. Destinia Perez-Pena, Waukee Northwest High School
7. Halie Rath, Kuemper Catholic High School
8. Chloe Sawyer, East Marshall Senior High School
9. Minasey Tewelde, Perry High School

Care Initiatives Director of Nursing (DON) Leadership Scholarship Recipients

This scholarship 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 member organization, and is made possible by Care Initiatives. Twelve scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Vickie Bender, Pleasantview
2. Melissa Brandt, Summit House Retirement Community
3. Kira Christensen, Sibley Specialty Care
4. Tami Dale, Bethany Lutheran Home/Bethany Heights AL
5. Sarah Miller, Lone Tree Health Care Center/Pioneer Park
6. Penelope Mohr, Clarion Wellness and Rehabilitation Center
7. Lisa Odland, Arbor Springs of West Des Moines
8. Rebecca Pacha, MGM Healthcare
9. Ashcelyn Ricken, Zearing Health Care
10. Michon Scott, Cottage Grove Place
11. Audrey Swanson, Luther Park Community
12. Stacy Willard, Humboldt County Memorial Hospital

Iowa Total Care Executive Health Care Leadership Institute Recipients

This \$1,500 scholarship is made possible by Iowa Total Care and is for leaders at IHCA member organizations interested in attending the 2024/2025 IHCA Executive Health Care Leadership Institute. Nine scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

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1. Jacob Bates, Western Home Communities
2. Jenny Blackmore, Care Initiatives
3. Kristina Boos, New Hampton Nursing and Rehab Center
4. Tyson Branscomb, Harmony Cedar Rapids
5. Keegan Donelan, Care Initiatives
6. Melinda Haley, Summit Pointe Senior Living Community
7. Lindsey Johnston, Whispering Willow Assisted Living and Memory Care
8. Tereni Kepler, Rose Haven Nursing Home
9. Kayla Radack, CopperWood at Prairie Trail

IHCA Member Employee Scholarship Recipients

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 IHCA Nurse Connect. Thirteen scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

1. Sheida Andrea, Deerfield Retirement Community
2. Annabelle Chavez, University Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
3. Jade Faris-Piere, Franklin General Hospital LTC
4. Taylor Hogan, Solon Retirement Village
5. Benjamin Holman, Luther Park Community
6. Megan Huntley, Good Samaritan Society - Manson
7. Andrea Johnson, The Views of Marion
8. Evangelina Klein, Westwood Specialty Care
9. Madison Koehn, English Valley Nursing Care Center
10. Rachel Miner, Ruthven Community Care Center
11. Juan Mora, Methodist Manor Retirement Community
12. Molli Ruble, Iowa Home Care - Ottumwa
13. Tiffany Welton, Oak Park Place of Dubuque

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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