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Ashland Community Health Foundation
Contact: Stephanie Roland, 541-482-0367 x2
stephanie.roland@achfoundation.org



ACHF Announces Evans Nursing Scholarship Awardees

Foundation awards almost \$180,000 to fifteen local nursing students

ASHLAND — Ashland Community Health Foundation (ACHF) is thrilled to announce the 2023-2024 recipients of its annual **Willam G. and Ruth T. Evans Endowed Nursing Scholarship** program. Through this program, ACHF aims to empower individuals pursuing nursing degrees at Rogue Community College and Oregon Health & Science University's (OHSU) Ashland Campus at Southern Oregon University to become skilled caregivers here in the Rogue Valley.

This year, ACHF's Evans Scholarship Selection Committee reviewed a record number of applications and was impressed by the exceptional qualifications and passion demonstrated by the applicants. After careful consideration, the committee has selected the fifteen deserving students listed below to receive awards ranging from \$6,000 to \$18,000.

From the OHSU BSN Program

Lizbeth Aguilar Chaparro
Samantha Blommel
Seaira Fitzgerald
Shelby Lane
Cole Moore
Edgar Perez Rivera
Liza Salazar
Saima Shah
Hanna Whitescorn

From the OHSU Accelerated BSN Program

Marie Mazur
Jacqueline Ramirez

From the RCC Associate of Nursing Program

Kylie Edmaiston
Kelli Hall
Marisol Navarro

From the OHSU RN to BS Program

Kelsey Strouse

Each recipient has shown great dedication to improving the lives of individuals and the communities of the Rogue Valley through their work. By investing in the education and development of these aspiring nurses, ACHF is helping to address the nursing shortage and ensuring the highest quality of care for patients of Jackson County.

“The students we chose from all walks of life demonstrated exceptional dedication and passion for nursing, and we are confident that they will make a significant impact in the health care field in our valley,” said Judy Pavlik, chair of the Evans Scholarship Selection Committee and ACHF board member. “We look forward to supporting them on their journey and witnessing their future achievements. The Evans Scholarship helps change the lives of our recipients and they in return will change lives in our communities.”

Additional awards will be made to 22 students in the graduating class of RCC’s Licensed Practical Nursing Program this month. The LPN scholarship covers the cost of state licensing and exam fees for graduates so they can move swiftly into the workforce.

The William G. and Ruth T. Evans Endowed Nursing Scholarship was founded in 2002 by Ruth Evans, a former WWII Army nurse, who wanted to help meet the local need for nurses and to honor her late husband, Bill, who was a family practice physician. With the help of her daughters, Peg and Barb, she established the scholarship at ACHF. Since its creation, the Evans Scholarship program has awarded more than \$1 million to 300+ nursing students.

The Evans Scholarship Program is made possible through the generous support of our donors, like the Evans family, who share our commitment to advancing the nursing profession and building a healthier community. Their contributions enable us to provide these scholarships and encourage the next generation of nurses.

Ashland Community Health Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) leading philanthropic efforts to advance innovative and equitable approaches to community health and wellness. Donations to ACHF are tax-deductible and can be made securely through our website at achfoundation.org or mailed to our office at 123 Clear Creek Drive, Suite 101, Ashland, Oregon 97520.

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