



Investing in the health of our community since 1983.

September 7, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Luke's Foundation Announces Nursing Scholarship Awards and Grants Over \$200,000 in 2011. Next Application Deadline October 1st.

Contact Person: Sue Sharpe, Executive Director, St. Luke's Foundation, 671-3349 or 739-3027

St. Luke's Foundation (SLF) has granted over \$200,000 to local health related organizations in 2011 and awarded nine new nursing scholarships for the 2011/2012 academic year.

The board recently approved \$60,000 to the Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access (WAHA); \$35,000 for a transforming local healthcare project and \$25,000 in matching funds for Whatcom Project Access. Whatcom Project Access serves low income individuals not eligible for public programs with donated specialist care and services.

WAHA is a community based organization committed to improving access to health coverage and care in our community. "St. Luke's Foundation's support of the transforming health care initiative further demonstrates their commitment to improving health care for this entire community by supporting innovative, community-based initiatives to reach this end," said Project Coordinator Elya Moore.

Other grants awarded include \$25,000 to the Whatcom County Fire Agency Radio Systems, \$20,000 to the Ferndale Food bank for replacing freezer and cooling equipment, \$10,000 for the Boys and Girls Club Health and Life Skills Program, \$5,000 for Interfaith Community Health Center Adult Dental Health program and \$14,652 to St. Joseph Medical Center Lifeline program.

The Foundation also announced nine new \$1,500 nursing scholarships including two scholarships established at Whatcom Community College and one at Bellingham Technical College. Six recipients received nursing scholarships administered by St. Luke's Foundation including the:

- ***Moles Family Scholarship*** to Jordan Biehle, Lynden Christian High School (2010) attending Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa
- ***Treat and Lathrop Family Scholarship*** to Carol Gegenhuber , Ferndale High School (2009) attending Pacific Lutheran University
- ***Jane and Charles Klingensmith Memorial Scholarship*** to Karlie Reinsma, Lynden Christian High School (2007) attending Pacific Lutheran University
- ***Ram Construction Employees Nursing Scholarship*** to Riley Scholten, Lynden Christian High School (2010) attending Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C.

- ***Lois Jean Roberts Nursing Scholarships*** to Amanda Langlois attending Bellingham Technical College and Lynn Ringstad attending Skagit Valley College.

Over 100 students have received close to \$300,000 in nursing education support since the Foundation started the Nursing Scholarship Fund in 1993. SLF has contributed over \$14.6 million to health related projects since its founding in 1982.

The deadline for the next major grant round is October 1, 2011. Nursing Scholarship applications are due by June 1st of each year. Visit www.stlukesfoundation.org or call 671-3349 for more information.

##

St. Luke's Foundation - P.O. Box 5641 - Bellingham, WA 98227