

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Sue Sharpe, Executive Director

Chuckanut Health Foundation

suesharpe@chuckanuthealthfoundation.org

360.671.3349

August 4, 2014

CHUCKANUT HEALTH FOUNDATION AWARDS \$19,500 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO 13 NURSING STUDENTS

Chuckanut Health Foundation (CHF) awarded nine scholarships and three grants totaling \$19,500 to 13 local nursing students this month.

“We have an outstanding group of scholarship recipients again this year, juggling school, work, family and volunteer activities, while achieving impressive grades in their nursing studies,” Sue Sharpe, Executive Director, CHF, said.

Five of the students receiving CHF scholarships are returning applicants, while four others are new awardees. Each \$1,500 scholarship may be renewed for up to three additional years. The scholarships are awarded annually through CHF’s Lois Jean Roberts Memorial Nursing Scholarship program. The program is named after the wife of James Roberts, former executive director of St. Luke’s Foundation (now Chuckanut Health Foundation). Students are selected on criteria that aligns with the goal of promoting and expanding opportunities for qualified students to attend and complete their nursing education, whether an RN or BSN degree. Students who plan to focus on community health needs of diverse populations are encouraged to apply.

Besides direct scholarship awards to students, CHF has committed \$1,500 to support nursing programs at local colleges with five standing scholarships: two at Bellingham Technical College (BTC), one at Western Washington University (WWU), and two at Whatcom Community College (WCC). CHF’s \$3,000 grant to BTC funds the CHF McEvoy Family Radiology Technology Scholarship as well as a Lois Roberts Nursing Scholarship.

This year’s new scholarship recipients include:

- Monica Bos, RN program at BTC; currently a nursing assistant at Christian Health Care; received CHF Janet and Charles Klingensmith Memorial Scholar
- Melissa Laitsch, RN program, WCC; works at PeaceHealth as a transporter; CHF Moles Family Scholar

- Devyn Nixon, RN to BSN program, University of Washington, Bothell; registered nurse at Skagit Valley Hospital; CHF Treat and Lathrop Family Scholar in Memory of Pearl Lathrop
- Ryan Willis, Associate Degree in Nursing, BTC; emergency department technician at PeaceHealth; CHF Hammes Family/Ram Construction Employees Nursing Scholar

Returning scholarship awardees are:

- Lyle Dollarhide, RN to BSN; WWU
- Carrie Holtrop, BSN; WWU
- David Flarry, RN to BSN; WWU; received CHF Adelstein, Sharpe & Serka Health Professional Scholar
- Elizabeth Mattila, RN; University of Washington
- Courtney Oostra, RN; Seattle Pacific University

For over 30 years, CHF has supported future health professionals by awarding 136 nursing scholarships totaling \$340,500. In addition, it has funded \$254,000 in equipment and facilities at WCC and BTC for health professional education since 1983.

Chuckanut Health Foundation shares a bold vision of a community where every child gets a healthy start and every person receives the care needed throughout their lifetime. It invests in the community now for a healthier tomorrow. For more information, visit www.chuckanuthealthfoundation.org