



Scholarship Program

Fall 2011 Recipients

The OHCF Scholarship Program provides professional development opportunities for those who work or seek to work in the long term care profession. The Foundation awards general studies scholarships to long term care professionals as well as scholarships for specialized study. Retention of experienced and educated caregivers helps to ensure that our elders receive quality care. A recent survey documents that 82% of scholarship recipients have remained in long term care, many pursuing advanced careers in the field. This is one critical way the Oregon Health Care Foundation works to address the shortage of caregivers and nurses in the field.

The Oregon Health Care Foundation is Pleased to Announce the Recipients of the 2011 Fall Cycle Scholarship Awards

Seventeen people were chosen to receive awards in the following scholarship categories:
(click links below to jump to specific recipient lists)

- [OHCF General Studies Scholarships](#)
- [Wendell White Scholarship for Leadership in Management](#)
- [Pinnacle Quality Insights Scholarship](#)
- [Margaret Murphy Carley Scholarship for Nursing](#)
- [BJ Treglown Scholarship for Registered Nursing](#)

OHCF General Studies Scholarships are awarded twice a year. To be considered for this \$500 award, candidates must currently work in any long term care profession with a desire to gain additional certification, licensure, or other degree through an accredited educational program in a field related to long term care.

This cycle there were 12 General Studies scholarships awarded to:

- **Patricia Burton**, CNA at Providence ElderPlace in Portland. Patricia has been in long term care for 4 years and is currently pursuing an RN degree with a long term professional goal of becoming a nurse practitioner.
- **Shawn Cobb**, Rehab Program Manager at Green Valley Rehabilitation Center in Eugene. Shawn has been in long term care for 8 years and 3 months and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Health Services Administration with a long term professional goal of becoming VP of Rehabilitation Services.
- **Susan Fisher**, Chef at Sun Terrace in Hermiston. Susan has worked in long term care for 5 years and 5 months and is currently pursuing Social Work with a long term goal of continuing to work with the elderly and their families.
- **Merga Geleto**, Functional Maintenance/CNA at Providence ElderPlace in Portland. Merga has worked in long term care for 8 years and 2 months and is currently pursuing an RN

- degree with a long term professional goal of becoming a family nurse practitioner specializing in geriatrics.
- **Tina Hill**, RN-BC at Providence ElderPlace in Portland. Tina has worked in long term care for 18 years and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Nursing, specializing in education, with a long term goal of gerontology education.
 - **Tiana Hook**, Activities Director at Marquis Care at Centennial. Tiana has worked in long term care for 3 years and 6 months. Her goal is to become a long term care administrator and a registered nurse and is hoping to pursue nurse management positions such as a director of nursing or consultant within long term care.
 - **Jane McKay**, Clinical Supervisor, Signature Hospice in Wilsonville. Jane has worked in long term care for 17 years. Jane is currently pursuing a MSN in Health Care Administration with a long term goal of becoming president of a home hospice company.
 - **Philine Oriekwu**, Charge Nurse & Weekend Supervisor at Regency Gresham. Philine has worked in long term care for 8 years and 2 months. Philine is currently pursuing an Associate's Degree in Nursing with a long term goal of becoming a Director of Nursing, Resident Care Coordinator or Charge Nurse.
 - **Carolina Rios**, Housekeeping/Laundry Assistant at Good Samaritan Society Curry Village in Brookings. Carolina is currently pursuing an Associate's Degree in Medical Records with a long term goal of becoming an accountant in health services.
 - **Patricia Smith**, Activities Director at French Prairie Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Woodburn. Patricia has worked in long term care for 1 year and 2 months and is currently pursuing education in Therapeutic Recreation with a long term goal of becoming certified in Recreation Therapy through NCTRC.
 - **Alexandr Vinokurov**, Director of Human Resources at Avamere Gresham Rehab & Specialty Care in Gresham. Alexandr has been in long term care for 5 years and 1 month and is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration which is his long term goal.
 - **Celia Walta**, Clinic Nurse at Providence ElderPlace in Gresham. Celia has been working in long term care for 35 years and is currently an RN pursuing a BSN Degree.

OHCF ALSO AWARDS DISCIPLINARY STUDIES SCHOLARSHIPS ANNUALLY

During the fall cycle there were four specific named scholarships made available.

The Wendell White Scholarship for Leadership in Management was established as a means to improve the expertise and quality of leadership in the long term care field by providing financial assistance for advanced education.

This cycle there were two scholarships awarded for \$2,500 each:

- **Todd Engle**, Health Services Administrator at Friendsview Retirement Community in Newberg was one recipient. Todd has worked in long term care for 28 years and is currently pursuing a position as COO, Executive Director or CEO of a CCRC.
- **Dennis Wilkerson**, Rehab Program Manager at Royale Gardens Health and Rehabilitation in Grants Pass. Dennis was the other recipient and has worked in long term care for 7 years and is working towards a Bachelor's Degree in Health Care Administration, with a long term goal of becoming a nursing home administrator.

The Pinnacle Quality Insights Scholarship recognizes excellence in the delivery of quality long term care and is designed for applicants who are currently working in long term care and desire to gain additional education to advance in their career.

This \$2,000 scholarship was awarded to the following recipient:

- **Stacie Zuercher**, Social Services Coordinator at Laurelhurst Village in Portland. Stacie has worked in long term care for over 8 years and is working on her MA Certificate in Gerontology with a long term goal to work in administration.

The Margaret Murphy Carley Scholarship for Nursing Margaret Murphy Carley has a passion for education and seniors. This scholarship named in her honor is awarded annually and is designed for certified nursing assistants who are seeking a nursing degree.

This cycle the following two recipients received this award in the amount of \$2,000 each:

- **Brittany Joseph**, Caregiver for Trilogy Home Care in Lake Oswego has worked in long term care for over 4 years. She is studying nursing and working on her BSN with a long term goal of working as a registered nurse with the senior population.
- **Heather Sowa**, Charge Nurse at Oregon City Health Care in Oregon City has worked in long term care for over 8 years. She is working on a dual Master's Program, moving towards becoming a nurse practitioner in geriatrics.

The BJ Treglown Scholarship for Registered Nursing *SPONSORED BY EVERGREEN HEALTH CARE* Established in memory of BJ Treglown, a Long Term Care RN who had a passion for seniors and education. This scholarship is intended towards a candidate that is seeking a career as a RN in Long Term Care.

Candidate applications for this award are currently being reviewed. The process for choosing recipients for this scholarship is more involved and may take longer than the other scholarships. Candidates for this award, which can be up to \$15,000 each, are processed through a different team of committee members and the candidates are interviewed in person. Once the candidates have been chosen and notified, OHCF will announce their names.

Congratulations to all of the recipients this cycle! We are proud to support you. Keep up the good work!

The due date for the Spring cycle of awards for the General Scholarship is **May 14, 2012**. For additional information about the OHCF Scholarship Program please visit www.ohcfoonline.org.

The Oregon Health Care Foundation (OHCF) is the nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization of the Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA) dedicated to supporting quality long term care in Oregon. OHCF was established to provide educational opportunities for current and future employees at long term care communities in Oregon, programs that enrich the lives of Oregon Seniors, and outreach to enhance the public understanding and appreciation of the long term care profession.