

Greater Phoenixville Healthcare Scholarship Program Announces 2008 Scholarship Recipients

Phoenixville, PA -- The Greater Phoenixville Healthcare Scholarship Program has been providing college scholarships since 1995. Since then more than seventy-two scholarships have been awarded to high school graduates, within the Phoenixville Hospital service area, pursuing careers in health care.

Since its inception in 1999, the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation has taken a lead role in administering the scholarship program. In the past the Foundation has partnered with the Phoenixville Hospital, the Phoenixville Hospital Auxiliary and the Phoenixville Hospital Thrift Shop to fund the scholarships.

Lynn Pike Hartman, Senior Program Officer of the Foundation facilitated the 2008 Scholarship Selection Committee activities. The Committee was comprised of members from the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation Board of Directors: Amy Barto, Daniel Baer, Timothy Durkin, Richard Kirkner and Kenneth Winston. The 2008 program included four scholarships, all funded by the Foundation. After submitting an application, essay and completing a personal interview with the Selection Committee the following scholarship recipients were chosen to receive an \$8,000 scholarship that will be paid over four years:

Katharine Curran of Malvern is a graduate of Great Valley High School and will be attending Salisbury University majoring in exercise Science/Physical Therapy. "Almost everyone I talk to warns me of how rigorous my studies are going to be, but I honestly feel that in the end it will be more than worth it. The late nights, difficult tests and endless studying will all pay off when I get to hear my patients talk about how relieved they are that they can finally go about with their normal lives."

Ariana Girdali of Royersford is a graduate of Spring-Ford High School and will be attending Ursinus College majoring in Biochemistry. "There are many reasons why I want to pursue a career in the healthcare field and I feel that with the path that I have chosen to take after high school, I will be able to do exactly that. I will be able to make a difference in the lives of many and possibly help create a cure."

Ashley Hengemihle of Audubon is a graduate of Methacton High School and will be attending York College of Pennsylvania majoring in Nursing. "Feeling safe and taken care of, in my opinion, are the most comforting feelings when one is scare. Nurses are not only responsible for the vital life that is in their hands, but also for the patient's emotional health. Being able to look in a patient's eyes and know that you have had a lasting impact on their life is a goal that I will strive to attain."

Janay Winston of Phoenixville is a graduate of CAT Pickering and will be attending Ursinus College majoring in Exercise Science/Physical Therapy. "There are many careers to choose from in the healthcare industry. I have given hours of thought to what contribution I would like to make to the world. The choice I have made is one that I am confident will benefit society, and will provide necessary education and guidance for people to improve their quality of life."

Dr. Louis Beccaria, President and CEO of the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation stated, "This scholarship program is in keeping with the Foundation's mission and strategic interests. We were pleased to be a part of the program again this year."

For application information for the 2009 Greater Phoenixville Healthcare Scholarship Program contact Lynn Pike Hartman, PCHF Senior Program Officer, at 610-917-9890 or through the Foundation's website: www.pchfl.org

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