

Nursing Foundation of Rhode Island **2020 Scholarships and Research Grant Awarded**

The Nursing Foundation of Rhode Island (NFRI) awarded scholarships to 10 undergraduate and 12 graduate nursing students from area colleges and one nursing research grant at a Virtual Awards Ceremony held on July 23, 2020. The awards program was dedicated to the memory of Kathleen Dwyer, an original Trustee of the Foundation and champion of the nursing profession. Ms. Dwyer's 46-year nursing career included serving as Dean of the Allied Health and Dental Departments at the Community College of Rhode Island and she received numerous awards for her dedication and contributions to nursing. Foundation President Keith Scally welcomed the award recipients, family members and guests who included several scholarship donors and thanked Foundation board members and donors for their dedication to promoting nursing and nursing education.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has presented enormous challenges to our profession" said Scally. "I have never been more proud to be a nurse and pleased that due to the generosity of so many donors we have been able to award these scholarships."

The scholarships, ranging from \$500 to \$1,500, are awarded to students based on their good academic standing and demonstrated need. Recipients of the research and scholarships awards, their school affiliation and donor fund are listed below:

Graduate Scholarships

Jeffery Tessier, URI - *Schmeiding*Fund*
Ana Dickenson, RIC – *Schmeiding*Fund*
Jessie McBurney, RIC – *Schmeiding*Fund*
Meliz Diaz, SRU – *Stettler Fund*
Hannah Browing, RIC – *Patricia Fagan Zanella Fund*
Victoria Ogunleye, RIC – *Patricia Fagan Zanella Fund*
Dawn Hughes, RIC – *Sweetland-Fry Fund*
Kate McKinnon, RIC – *Sweetland-Fry Fund*
Maureen Flanagan, RIC – *Ferrara Fund*
Katherine O'Keefe, RIC – *Dwyer Fund*
Lori Kasher, RIC (DNP) – *Briant Fund*
Linda Mendonca, Rush (DNP) – *SJHSON Alumni Fund*

Undergraduate Scholarships

Endicott College

Theresa Gilmartin – *McGarry Fund*

New England Institute of Technology

Madison Silva – *Stettler Fund*
Penny Bossom-Seeger – *Stettler Fund*
Marina Tedesco – *McGarry Fund*

Salve Regina University

Daniela Carvalho – *Stettler & Mary Thoman RWGHNAA Funds*
Angela Nardi – *McGarry & Drew-Lewis Funds*
Emily Langevin – *Enright, McGarry & Dwyer Funds*
Mikayla Lewandoski – *Joseph Fund*

University of Rhode Island

Julia Kasanovich – *Schmeiding*Fund*
Alexis Kennedy – *Schmeiding*Fund*

Research Award

Elizabeth Coccio BSN, RN

Incorporated in 1991, the Foundation's mission is to provide nursing scholarships, to award nursing research grants, and to support nursing in Rhode Island. Since its inception, it has awarded a total of \$366,629 in Scholarships and \$48,438 in research grants.