

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Suzanne Montanaro
Marketing Manager
(507) 526-6168
smontanaro@uhd.org



United Hospital District Foundation Announces Scholarship Awards

Six Local High School Students Named as Recipients

Blue Earth, MN – May 18, 2021 – United Hospital District (UHD), an independent and award-winning healthcare system based in southern Minnesota, announced today that its Foundation Board has selected six recipients for its first-ever Healthcare Scholarship Award Program for the 2020-2021 school year.

The UHD Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial support to UHD to ensure continued healthcare excellence in the communities served by UHD. The Foundation values an educated workforce and encourages people pursuing careers in healthcare. Six \$1,000 scholarships were offered to seniors from area high schools: Blue Earth Area; Fairmont; Granada Huntley East Chain; United South Central; North Iowa; and North Union. To be eligible, seniors must be accepted into an accredited academic program and planning to major in a healthcare field. They must also be a resident of a community served by the area high school and were required to provide verification of current grade point average, an essay expressing their educational and career goals and influences on career choice, as well as a letter of recommendation from a non-family member.

All 18 applicants were extremely worthy and very high performers in academics, athletics, community service/volunteerism, and the arts. Winners were selected using several considerations, including a desire to return and serve their home community after completing their degree and training. The winners are:

Blue Earth Area High School: Braden Gudahl, Nursing at Minnesota State Mankato; and Britt Howard, Nursing at Minnesota State Mankato.

Fairmont Jr/Sr High School: Bryn Miller, Pre-Med at University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences; and Maddy Schwieger, Pharmacy at University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences.

North Union High School: Evan Bollinger, Pre-Med at Iowa State University.

United South Central High School: Arianne Schaper, Psychology at University of Minnesota.

“The Foundation was very excited to have such wonderful candidates to choose from in its first foray into awarding scholarships. Decisions were difficult since all the applicants were similar in academic achievement, school activity, and community service,” said Paula Kabe, UHD Foundation Coordinator. Kabe also noted that Britt Howard was selected as the inaugural winner of the *Julie Clements Memorial Scholarship*, named in memory of Julie Clements, CNP. Ms. Clements, who passed away in March of this year, was a UHD Nurse Practitioner whose 40+ year healthcare career included 14 years serving patients at UHD’s Blue Earth and Fairmont clinics. Ms. Clements was well known for caring diligently for patients, family, and friends and for being unceasing in her giving to others.

The scholarship recipients were selected by the UHD Foundation board, comprised of community representatives and UHD board and staff members:

- Lars Bierly –Blue Earth, MN
- Ronda Dahl, RN – Elmore, MN
- Millicent Hanson – Winnebago, MN
- Doug Johanson –Winnebago, MN
- Aaron Johnson, MD – Blue Earth, MN
- Cory Milbrandt – Blue Earth, MN
- Mark Warmka – Easton, MN
- Eric Wegner – Wells, MN

- Rick Ash, UHD President and CEO
- Paula Kabe, UHD Foundation Coordinator and Administration Executive Assistant

The Foundation intends to continue and expand this scholarship program in coming years. To learn more about the UHD Foundation or how to make a donation, contact info@uhd.org or call 507-526-3273.

United Hospital District (www.uhd.org), based in Blue Earth, MN, is an independent system of care comprised of a 25-bed acute care hospital, comprehensive outpatient services, ambulance service and a home health/hospice care program, all supported by a 20-plus multi-specialty provider group with four clinic locations across two counties. The UHD Foundation is dedicated to providing financial support to UHD to ensure continued healthcare excellence in the communities we serve.

#









