

# THE FOUNDATION

F A L L 2 0 0 8

## About the Foundation

The Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation is a public charity created in 1999 with proceeds from the sale of Community Hospital to Health Management Associates. With assets in excess of \$11 million, the Foundation is committed to enhancing the health and well-being of the entire community, consistent with the osteopathic tradition of compassionate, patient-centered wellness. The Foundation builds the holistic health of the community by investing in people and programs that provide healthcare and health education to Lancaster's children, especially the underserved.



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## Foundation Honors Two Local Physicians



*Dr. Jeffrey Levine (on right) congratulates Phelan Piehota, the first recipient of the Foundation's Jeffrey N. Levine, DO Physician Scholarship.*

The Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation has honored two Lancaster County physicians by naming scholarships in their honor. The lifelong work and service of Grace Helsel Kaiser, DO and Jeffrey N. Levine, DO will be commemorated annually as scholarships in their names are presented to future osteopathic physicians entering medical school.



*Dr. Frau,  
Grace Helsel Kaiser, DO*

For 28 years Dr. Grace Kaiser quietly practiced medicine in the New Holland region among the Amish and Mennonite communities. She became known on the world stage through three books she wrote about her experiences, *Dr. Frau*, as she was known to her patients, *Detour* and *Growing Up Farm*. The Bucks County native graduated from the College of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. She interned at Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital and was also on the staff of Ephrata Community Hospital. Her service was tragically ended in 1978 when she experienced a career-ending disability. She has lived in Arizona since 1980.

A true medical pioneer, Dr. Kaiser is the first female physician to be honored by the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation in this way.

*continued on page 5*

# Memorials & Celebrations

## Bequests

We salute these advocates of patient-centric healthcare for honoring the work of the Foundation in their wills.

The estate of  
Elwood Hackenberger  
The estate of  
Shirley Snader Bubb

## In Memory of Peggy Snader

Peggy was the life partner and loving wife of Dr. Robert S. Snader. Together they were tireless advocates for osteopathic medicine.

Jean Acklin  
Berel Arrow, DO  
William Cackovic  
Michelina Campisano  
Thomas Enlow  
Christine Eshelman  
Shirley Hambright  
Harmon & Davies, PC  
Joan Holzbauer  
Kathleen Jaczynski  
Robert Krall  
James Lambert  
Richard Maher  
Roberta Prymula  
Stephen Roda  
Joel Samitt, DO  
Lois Schaller  
Larry Smith  
Kathryn Snyder  
Helen Souders  
Carol Stutzman  
Sarah Warfel  
Gerald Weaver  
Joan Wengert  
Winfield Zerphey



Sharon Greelish Cody, Esq.

## A Letter from the Foundation Executive Director ENSURING EQUITY IN HEALTH CARE SHOULD BE A PRIORITY FOR ALL

Minority Americans fare worse on nearly every health indicator, including health care coverage, access to health care, disease rates and life expectancy. African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and Native Americans have higher incidence of chronic disease, poorer health outcomes and higher mortality rates than Caucasian Americans. When examined closely the data paints an even starker picture. Research studies have consistently found disparities in both health care access and health care quality for racial and ethnic minorities independent of age, gender, clinical and socioeconomic factors. As our nation and our county become more diverse, the magnitude of the problem increases.

Minorities are underrepresented in the health care work force. Although African Americans, Latinos and Native Americans make up 24 percent of the nation's population, only 7 percent of physicians and only 12.7 percent of nurses are from one of these minority groups. One way to reduce health disparities is to recruit and train qualified, compassionate health care workers who are racial and ethnically diverse and possess the cultural and linguistic skills needed by minority patients.

Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation is proud of the work it is doing in this area. Over the last nine years, the Foundation has provided over \$725,000 in scholarships to 12 osteopathic medical students and 65 nursing students from racially, ethnically and culturally diverse backgrounds. This investment was made to help ensure that the community has enough well trained, caring health professionals from a variety of backgrounds to make the osteopathic values of holistic health and wellness a reality for all of Lancaster's residents.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Eileen P. Sosa, MSN, CRNP  
SouthEast Lancaster Health  
Services

Lourdes Vazquez  
Educational Consultant

### Our Staff

Sharon Greelish Cody  
Executive Director

Luann Brubaker  
Executive Assistant

## Career Counselor Joins Foundation Board



Tricia Cleaves

Tricia Cleaves, a career counselor for the Lancaster County Career and Technology Center (LCCTC), has been elected to serve on the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation board of directors. At LCCTC, she assists single parenting mothers attending the school to overcome barriers to their success and graduation. She also works as a part-time outpatient therapist for Pressley Ridge (formerly Family and Children's Service).

Tricia brings a wealth of experience and insight to her board position. She previously worked for Lancaster Employment and Training Agency (LETA) as a career counselor, as an outpatient therapist with Pennsylvania Counseling Services and with the Drug and Alcohol Council of Lancaster County a a group co-facilitator for adjudicated youth.

She holds a Masters of Education degree in counseling and a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Millersville University. She is also a Leadership Lancaster graduate.

## Two Medical School Scholarships Totaling \$80,000 Awarded

*continued from page 5*

Scott Silverstein, DO, president of the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation board, said "These students are distinguished by their maturity, life experiences and their sincere desire to help the medically underserved. They could have gotten into any medical school they wanted, but they chose osteopathic medicine."

"We're extremely proud of the quality of these applicants and even more pleased to make this investment in these two students," explained Sharon Greelish Cody, executive director of Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation. "More than benefiting two individuals, the Foundation is really investing in the future of Lancaster County healthcare. Through these students and the six others currently attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine on Foundation scholarships, we are working to maintain the highest quality of medicine in our community by advancing the osteopathic tradition of patient-centric healthcare."

The Foundation selection committee was chaired by Dr. Silverstein. Other members included:

Vincent D. Glielmi, DO

Sharon Greelish Cody, Foundation executive director

Peter Hurtubise, DO

Debra L. Wohl, PhD, Elizabethtown College

You may learn more about Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation physician scholarships by calling or visiting us online.

## Local Health Foundation Establishes Scholarship to Honor Nursing Pioneer

A new scholarship in honor of longtime community health nurse Linda Gort, MS, CRNP, has been established by the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation. A \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded annually to a nursing student who best exemplifies her commitment to maternal and child health and to quality nursing care.

Linda Gort and her husband, homeless advocate Lenny Walton, are relocating to New York City later this year.

Since 1996, Linda has served women and families at SouthEast Lancaster Health Services where she is their director of women's and children's services and a family nurse practitioner. During this time, she also volunteered her services for pregnant inmates at the Lancaster County Prison.

Linda served on the board of directors at the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation since 2002 and chaired its nursing scholarship and its child health and welfare grants committees. She heads the Lancaster Reach Out and Read



Sharon Greelish Cody (on left) and Linda Gort honor Henry Maina as the first Linda Gort, CRNP Scholar.

Coalition as well.

Linda Gort is a graduate of the University of Delaware where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, followed by a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. There, Gort later earned a Master of Science degree in nursing.

She completed two preceptorships, one on the prevention of battering

during pregnancy at Texas Women's University and another on perinatal substance abuse from the National Association for Perinatal Research. Gort is also a graduate of the postmasters family nurse practitioner program at Widener University.

Gort has served as a member of the adjunct faculty at Millersville University as a clinical and laboratory instructor in their family nurse practitioner program.

"This community has truly been blessed to have Linda Gort caring for us," said Sharon Greelish Cody, Foundation executive director. "She has been tireless in her dedication to our families in need. She is an inspiration to everyone who comes in contact with her."



## Seventeen Nursing Students Awarded Over \$45,000 in Scholarships

The Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation has awarded scholarships to 17 women and men pursuing degrees in nursing. In addition, two others received stipends to assist with their education, and one was granted funding for her second year of study.

With these awards the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation has invested more than \$325,000 in the education of future nursing students.

The scholarship recipients represent one of the most diverse groups in the program's eight-year history. A majority of the honorees are bilingual, and a quarter of the recipients are older, nontraditional students. Two award winners emigrated from Kenya and one from Somalia.

"As Lancaster County becomes more and more diverse, we need healthcare providers who speak the home tongues of their patients," said Sharon Greelish Cody, Foundation executive director. "The diversity represented by these students entering the healthcare field holds great promise for our community's ability to serve tomorrow's patients."

Leading scholars included:

- ▲ Harold H. Finkel Memorial Scholar—Anna Myers, Lancaster, pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) at Penn State University
- ▲ St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Scholar—Brittany Zimmerman, Lititz, pursuing a Registered Nursing (RN) degree at the Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences
- ▲ Linda Gort, CRNP Scholar—Henry Maina, Mount Joy, pursuing his Licensed Practical Nursing degree (LPN) degree at the Lancaster County Career & Technology Center.

Also pursuing a BSN degree was:

- ▲ Amanda Tshudy, Lancaster—Alvernia College
- Others pursuing RN degrees were:
  - ▲ Kara Hoover, Gap—Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences
  - ▲ Roseanne Nolt, Mohnton—Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences
  - ▲ Lauren Ortega, Landisville—Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences

- ▲ Alicia Rouf, Conestoga—Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC)

- ▲ Magdalena Ruiz, Lancaster—HACC

- ▲ Heather Turzai, Mount Joy—Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Working toward LPN degrees at the Lancaster County Career & Technology Center are:

- ▲ Fatuma Abdi, Lancaster

- ▲ Alexandria Getz, Lititz

- ▲ Janel Nations, New Holland

- ▲ Tina Santiago, Columbia

- ▲ Richard Sigei, Lancaster

- ▲ Desiree Suliveras, Lancaster

- ▲ Leon Trager, Jr., Quarryville

- ▲ Lakeya Whatley, Lancaster

Three previous recipients were awarded additional scholarships to pay for their pursuit of more advanced degrees.

- ▲ Charise Garber, Lancaster—pursuing a BSN degree at Eastern Mennonite University

- ▲ Lisa Morales, Lancaster—pursuing an RN at HACC

- ▲ Anne Parson, Holtwood—pursuing a BSN at Eastern Mennonite University

The Foundation selection committee was chaired by Foundation board member emeritus, Linda Gort, MS, CRNP, a nurse practitioner at SouthEast Lancaster Health Services. Other members included:

Steve Flores, LPN, previous scholarship winner

Amanda Fowler, RN, Lancaster General Hospital

Sharon Greelish Cody, Foundation executive director

Tanya Long, RN, previous scholarship winner

Jeanne W. Payeur, BSN, HACC, representing

St. Joseph's School of Nursing alumnae

Eileen P. Sosa, MSN, CRNP, SouthEast Lancaster Health Services

To learn more about Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation scholarships, please call or visit us online.

## Two Medical School Scholarships Totaling \$80,000 Awarded

The Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation has awarded medical school scholarships to Elizabethtown College graduates, Hazem Matta and Phelan Pichota. Each will receive \$10,000 a year scholarships to help fund their four years at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In making these scholarship commitments, the Foundation has awarded a total of \$555,000 in medical school scholarships over the past six years. Six scholarship recipients have graduated from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and one is in a residency program at a Lancaster County hospital. Six other Foundation scholarship recipients are already attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Receiving the Grace Helsel Kaiser, DO scholarship was Hazem Matta. Hazem emigrated with his family from Egypt as



Hazem Matta



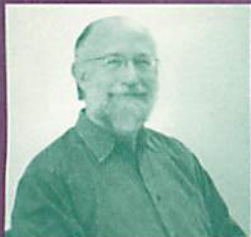
Phelan Pichota

a child to Camp Hill, Pennsylvania and went on to graduate from Cedar Cliff High School in 2003. A firm believer in patient education and preventive medicine, he graduated cum laude from Elizabethtown College in 2007. There he had majored in biology and premedical sciences and minored in Spanish.

Phelan Pichota received the Jeffrey N. Levine, DO scholarship. He was a 2008 cum laude graduate from Elizabethtown College with a major in biology and a minor in Spanish. Pichota's college career was interrupted by a tour of duty in the Army National Guard where he served as an Army medic in over 280 combat missions in Iraq. During his tour of duty, he was inspired to become an osteopathic physician by an Army doctor who graduated from Philadelphia College of Medicine. He wishes to serve other veterans as a physician.

*continued on page 3*

## Foundation Honors Two Local Physicians *continued from page 1*



Jeffrey N. Levine, DO

Dr. Jeffrey Levine has served as medical director of Gambro Health in Elizabethtown since 1998. He also directed their Lancaster office from 1998 to 2002. From 1995 to 1998 he was director of Vivra Renal Care of Lancaster. Before that, he directed the Mylin hemodialysis unit at Community Hospital of Lancaster from 1978 to 1995.

Dr. Levine was director of medical education at Community Hospital from 1980 to its closing in 1999. He also chaired their credentials committee from 1993 to 1999.

He served as president of Community Hospital's medical staff from 1985 to 1987. In addition, he was president of their division of medicine from 1984 to 1988. Dr. Levine served as director of medical education at Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center from 1999 to 2008.

Dr. Levine earned his doctorate in osteopathic medicine from the Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, after attending the University of Iowa in Iowa City. He interned and served his residency at Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital. He served a fellowship at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia in clinical nephrology, hypertension, dialysis and transplantation. Dr. Levine is board certified in both nephrology and internal medicine.

"These two dedicated physicians pioneered quality, patient-centered health care in Lancaster County," said Scott Silverstein, DO, chair of the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation. "Dr. Kaiser blazed many trails...as a female physician, as an osteopathic physician and as a physician serving an underserved population. Dr. Levine has dedicated his career to physician education and reducing the community's health disparities."

### Previous Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation Physician Scholarship Honorees

- Norman M. Axelrod, DO Scholarship—first awarded in 2007
- Victor M. Bove, DO Scholarship—first awarded in 2006
- Anthony M. Congello, DO Scholarship—first awarded in 2005
- Paul W. Herr, DO Scholarship—first awarded in 2005
- Robert S. Snader, DO Scholarship—first awarded in 2006
- David E. Wiley, DO—first awarded in 2007



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## Now More than Ever the Foundation Needs Your Support

Like most of you, the decline in the stock market has hit the Foundation hard. To continue to shape the future of this community's healthcare and protect its children, your tax-deductible gift is needed. Check should be made payable to "Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation" and returned to:

Lancaster Osteopathic Health  
Foundation  
128 East Grant Street, Suite 104  
Lancaster, PA 17602-2854.

## Thank you!

A copy of the official registration and financial information of Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

## Our Thanks to St. Joseph Hospital Nursing School Alumni!

The St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing alumni organization recently donated \$10,000 to the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation. The money will be used to endow a scholarship fund for nursing students in the Lancaster area.

"This is our way of keeping alive the passion for quality and caring nursing care that attracted all of us to study nursing at the St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing," explained Jeanne W. Payeur, BSN, a graduate of the school. "The alumnae of St. Joseph Hospital School of



Nursing first began giving offering a scholarship to nursing students through the Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation in 2003. Investing much of the balance of our funds in tomorrow's nurses made great sense."

For nearly 100 years the St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing was a fixture in Lancaster County. As the hospital struggled to find its place in the evolving healthcare world, it closed the school in 1996.

"These nurses continue show their commitment to serve the families of this community by making this visionary investment in future nursing care," said Sharon Greelish Cody, Foundation executive director. "On behalf of the many caregivers who will be able to enter the field of nursing and go on to serve thousands within this community, we thank them for their generosity."