

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **New Jersey League for Nursing Presents \$20,000 in Scholarship Awards to Three New Jersey Nursing Students through a Grant Provided by the Community Health Connections Foundation, Inc.**

*NJLN Supports Nursing Education to Advance Healthcare Delivery for New Jersey Communities*

**WESTFIELD, N.J.** – The New Jersey League for Nursing, Inc. (NJLN), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting excellence in nursing education to build a strong and diverse nursing workforce, proudly announces the recipients of the 2021 Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Scholarship Awards totaling \$20,000. These awards provided a \$10,000 scholarship for a doctoral degree, a \$5,000 scholarship for a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree, and a \$5,000 scholarship for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. These scholarships are made possible through a grant provided to the NJLN by the Community Health Connections Foundation, Inc., (CHCF), a private grant-making foundation.

“The opportunity provided by the CHCF grant enables the NJLN to award scholarships in honor of Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley, who was an innovative nurse leader, strong advocate of nursing education, and a past NJLN president. The need to help advance the nursing profession is even more crucial as we navigate the important work of nursing, especially during a pandemic. Providing financial resources to assist those pursuing nursing education, at all levels, is essential to New Jersey’s healthcare system. Administering this scholarship also provides great synergy with our mission to support and deliver excellence in nursing education, said Tracy A. Ortelli, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, NJLN President.”

The awardees were selected based on a rigorous process meeting defined scholarship criteria, which focused on academic excellence, personal essay, references, and interview. These three recipients were recently honored during the NJLN’s virtual awards presentation attended by their family, friends, and colleagues.

**\$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE**   **\$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**   **\$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**



**SYLVARIA OYINKOLADE**  
**MSN, RN-BC, CALA**  
**WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY**



**ELIZABETH DINICOLA**  
**BSN, RN, CHFNP**  
**WALDEN UNIVERSITY**



**VANSHI SHAH**  
**THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

- **Sylvaria (Sylvie) Oyinkolade, MSN, RN-BC, CALA - pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) at William Paterson University.** Sylvie is currently a Health Care Case Manager for Rutgers University/University), and an Adjunct Professor at William Paterson University. "It has always been my dream to earn my DNP degree giving me the leverage to be the change agent needed in the nursing profession where I will have a more significant opportunity to make a difference in the community," said Oyinkolade. She is the recipient of a \$10,000 scholarship award.
- **Elizabeth (Beth) Dinicola, BSN, RN, CHFNP - pursuing a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) at Walden University.** Beth is a Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) Coordinator at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, RWJBarnabas Health. "I came to the decision to pursue my MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner to gain the additional knowledge to care for individuals across the life-span as I plan to continue to work with these patients for the rest of my career," said Dinicola. She is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship award.
- **Vanshi Shah - pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ).** Vanshi is employed by Hackensack Meridian Health, JFK University Medical Center as a Patient Sitter, and is an active EMT with the Woodbridge EMS Squad. "I am a future Nurse with a practical vision for the future of mental health and medicine, and I will make my plan a reality to assist every patient I touch to make their lives, the lives of their families, and overall community a better place," said Shah. She is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship award.

"It is an honor to present these scholarships to such distinguished recipients who have demonstrated their passion for the nursing profession and their education, said Carol Fasano, MA, RN, NP,C-BC, CNE, NJLN Board of Directors, and Scholarship Committee Chairperson. As an organization who proudly focuses on nursing education as our mission, it is scholarship awards that allow us to help remove some of the financial burden placed on these students so they may concentrate on achieving their degrees."

To learn more about the NJLN, or to explore the organization's scholarship opportunities, and view the video of the Dr. Maureen Sullivan Foley Memorial Awards presentation, visit [www.njln.org/scholarship\\_recipients.html](http://www.njln.org/scholarship_recipients.html).

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**About the New Jersey League for Nursing, Inc.**

The New Jersey League for Nursing (NJLN) supports and implements the mission of the National League for Nursing to promote excellence in nursing education and build a strong and diverse nursing workforce to advance the health of our nation and the global community. The NJLN is a diverse and inclusive organization proudly celebrating 105 years of supporting nurse education excellence. To learn more, visit [www.njln.org](http://www.njln.org).

**About the Community Health Connections Foundation, Inc.**

The Foundation's proud mission is to operate exclusively to provide support for charitable purposes, by connecting grants and donations to non-profit and federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations and programs that are dedicated to health, healthcare services, and health education in the State of New Jersey. Through innovative strategic collaborations and resource connections, the most vulnerable individuals, families, and unmet community health needs will most benefit from the services and opportunities that will enable them to achieve their best quality of life and full potential.