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Wisconsin Hospital Association Foundation Connects Local Schools and Hospitals to Create New Opportunities for Students

Wisconsin schools across the state receive grants to establish HOSA-Future Health Professionals chapters.

MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) Foundation is excited to announce its latest initiative to help grow and sustain a strong health care workforce in Wisconsin. In collaboration with 30 local hospitals, the WHA Foundation is providing grants to establish HOSA-Future Health Professionals chapters in high schools during the 2024/25 school year.

Supporting Wisconsin’s existing health care workforce is a top priority of Wisconsin hospitals, as is supporting Wisconsin’s future health care workforce in order to maintain the high-quality health care Wisconsin citizens expect and deserve. The partnership between hospitals and high schools to recruit and develop Wisconsin’s future health care workforce is an important part of those efforts.

HOSA is a student organization that provides members with the opportunity to explore health care career options and experiences, and the routes they can take to embark on their professional pathway. By fostering early interest in health care professions, the WHA Foundation, in partnership with 30 local hospitals, is investing in Wisconsin’s future health care workforce to ensure Wisconsin has the skilled, compassionate caregivers needed to meet the growing demand for health care. Combined, the WHA Foundation and participating hospitals contributed \$33,000 to launch new HOSA chapters in schools across Wisconsin.

“The WHA Foundation is thrilled to support this significant step toward building a robust health care workforce in Wisconsin,” **said Eric Borgerding, WHA President and CEO.** “This initiative isn’t just about workforce numbers – it’s about fostering future caregivers who are well-trained, committed to delivering exceptional health care for patients statewide, and prepared for rewarding and satisfying careers.”

Earlier this year, the WHA Foundation also launched the “[So Many Options](#)” campaign, a statewide initiative highlighting the vast array of career opportunities within the Wisconsin health care system. By targeting middle and high school students, both the “So Many Options” campaign and the HOSA grant program serve as invaluable resources to ensure Wisconsin’s future health care workforce is strong, well-prepared and equipped to deliver the highest level of care to all residents. As students discover fulfilling, well-paying careers with stability and upward mobility, they not only build brighter futures for themselves but also strengthen the local economy, creating a ripple effect that benefits families and communities statewide.

Below are the 30 Wisconsin hospitals that participated in this initiative:

Amery Hospital and Clinics	Froedtert Mequon
Ascension WI Hospital Greenfield	Froedtert Community Hospital Oak Creek
Ascension SE St. Joseph	Froedtert Milwaukee
Ascension NE Mercy	Gundersen Boscobel
Ascension SE Franklin	Gundersen St. Joseph
Ascension Columbia St. Mary's	Gundersen Tri County Hospital
Ascension All Saints	HSHS St. Mary's
Aurora Medical Center Mt. Pleasant	Mayo Clinic Health System – NWWI Region
Aurora Medical Center Oshkosh	Mayo Clinic Health System – SWWI Region
Aurora West Allis Medical Center	Mile Bluff Medical Center
Aurora Sinai	Prairie Ridge Hospital
Aurora Health Care St. Lukes	River Falls Area Hospital
Aurora Burlington	Spooner Health
Bellin Health	SSM St. Mary's Madison
Beloit Memorial Hospital	Unity Point Meriter Hospital

Below are the 23 Wisconsin schools/school districts that received grants as part of this program:

Amery High School	Nicolet Union High School
Birchwood High School	North High School
Burlington Area School District	Oshkosh West High School
Durand-Arkansaw Middle/High School	Port Edwards High School
F.J. Turner High School	Rio Middle and High School
Fall River Public Schools	Riverdale JH/SR High School
Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School	Seymour Community High School
Gifford K-8	South Division High School
Greenfield High School	Sun Prairie East High School
Independence High School	Verona Area School District
Meyer Middle School	Wonewoc-Center
Milwaukee Marshall High School	

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ABOUT WHA FOUNDATION, INC.

The WHA Foundation, Inc. is dedicated to advancing the educational, research and charitable initiatives of the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) and its members. By focusing on grant-making priorities that promote statewide impact, the Foundation supports programs that enhance healthcare across Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.wha.org.

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