



THE GRETTA FOUNDATION LAUNCHES NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (November 11, 2008)—The Gretta Foundation, the only nonprofit organization solely dedicated to providing in-country nursing scholarships to residents of developing countries, announced the support of its first nursing scholars today.

The foundation's model is aimed at improving the severely depleted healthcare workforce around the world, while helping to decrease the exodus of nurses from disease-burdened nations. Scores of nurses leave these areas each year to obtain higher pay and better workplace conditions in more developed parts of the world.

The Gretta Foundation granted support of its first full scholarships to five new nursing scholars in Malawi, Africa. The scholars recently began studies at Kamuzu College of Nursing in a four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program.

Scholarships from The Gretta Foundation provide students with annual tuition, living stipends, basic school supplies, nursing uniforms, shoes, and clinical supplies. On average, a full nursing scholarship in government-sponsored schools is approximately \$1,500-\$3,800 per scholar, per year depending on the country.

In repayment, Gretta Scholars agree to serve in their country's clinics and hospitals for a period parallel with each year of scholarship assistance. For example, those entering a four-year baccalaureate program will serve in-country for four years.

The Gretta Foundation was formed by Meg Styles, a Northern California entrepreneur in honor of her mother, the late Dr. Margretta Styles ("Gretta"), who was a beloved global nursing figure and a pioneer in the nursing profession.

"Critical nursing shortages in disease-burdened countries severely undermine all global health initiatives," said Meg Styles. "Sub-Saharan Africa has 24% of the global disease burden, but only 3% of the healthcare workforce worldwide. It is our goal to act as the missing link and support global efforts to improve maternal health, decrease child mortality rates, and fight the advance of diseases."

The Gretta Foundation is on-track to grant its next nursing scholarships to healthcare students in Uganda.

About The Gretta Foundation, 501 (c)(3)

The Gretta Foundation, established in 2007, is a charitable corporation whose mission is to provide in-country nursing scholarships to persons living in disease-burdened nations, bolstering depleted healthcare workforces around the world. Based in San Francisco, California, The Gretta Foundation is led by President and Founder Meg Styles, daughter of the late Dr. Margretta Styles ("Gretta") who believed that a nurse's contribution to humanity is inestimable. For more information, please visit grettafoundation.org or call 415.391.3139.

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