

Scholarship Recipient Essay

Margo Long

This scholarship has supported my journey through nursing school to augment my previous degree in Occupational Safety and Health. My program has not allowed me a large opportunity to work with patients suffering from occupational injuries and illnesses thus far, but I feel that I have been able to make a difference in the safety awareness of my classmates and the nurses that I am paired with in clinical. I have taught my fellow classmates about ergonomic lifting techniques, the danger of needle sticks, proper footwear, and cord management to avoid trips and falls. At times, in the clinical setting, there are cords, tubes, machines, and supplies littering the walkways and my classmates are very cognizant of the danger of such hazards to healthcare workers and patients alike.

One patient that I was able to take care of in my nursing program was recovering from a work-related traumatic brain injury. Due to my training in school, I was able to provide the medical care he needed. Due to my background and knowledge in Occupational Health, I was able to answer questions and provide reassurance about the workers compensation process and the resources available to him. The further I get through the nursing program that this scholarship has supported, the more informed and well-rounded of an Occupational Health Professional I become. I look forward to giving more holistic care to patients suffering from work-related injuries and illnesses after graduation.