

November 27, 2023

Foundation for the Advancement of Health Education  
P.O. Box 31  
Wellborn, TX 77881

Dear Scholarship Award Committee,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to apply for the Dr. Becky J. Smith scholarship. I believe that the Dr. Becky J. Smith scholarship is an example of eliminating the barriers surrounding education as it relates to the social determinants of health. I'm a junior, with a major in public health at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. My educational plan is to earn my bachelor's degree in public health, earn a master's degree in public health, and take additional classes in Spanish. It's my desire to effectively serve all my community and learn additional strategies to advocate for our Hispanic community because they are under served due to language barriers.

Another educational endeavor I would like to explore is coursework in grant writing after I earn my bachelor's in public health. Grant writing would provide me the opportunity to freely assist small community-based organizations, non-profit organizations, VFW's, faith-based organizations, and even my own church in writing a grant. This will help those organizations allocate funds to more urgent budgeted items needed, instead of hiring a grant writer. I'm a servant with the gift of helps and a community health worker and team lead for a large health organization. I truly, have been blessed because I'm compensated to do what I love, and I love what I do.

It's my hope that you will consider me for the Dr. Becky J. Smith scholarship because it would ease my financial stress of earning my bachelor's degree in public health. I'm a separated, single mom, and for a long time I thought I would never earn my degree. However, I did earn my first degree, an associate in arts with honors and a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. I was timid to try to earn a bachelor's degree at the university level. However, I'm doing great in my courses, working hard, inspiring my daughter, offered a membership to Phi Sigma Pi, and my grade point average is a 4.0. I would regret having to withdraw from the University Of North Carolina at Greensboro because of affordability. I'm unable to afford another student loan.

As a community health worker and public health student I believe it's my responsibility to stay abreast of all federal government, local government, health & safety, and social changes that impact our communities. I've joined coalitions such as QC 4 (Queen City Community Connect Coalition), which help to unify, equip, and empower community health works to help serve our communities. I'm a member of NCCHWA (North Carolina Community Health Worker Association), which believes in advocacy for our communities and elevating the health of communities. I'm a member of SE CHW network (Southeast Community Health Worker network), and the foundation is to advance health equity across the Southeastern United States.

Additionally, I attend Medicaid, diabetes, housing, mental health, and cancer webinar trainings to help educate the communities I serve. I've been a member of the Final Harvest Ministries for 10 years. I've worked in administration, usher board, greeter for our Kingdom Kitchen, tech support, cookie baker for our prison ministry, and custodian. I currently serve on our "Prayer & Plates team on Saturdays as a sign holder, tech support, greeter, and food line server.

I humbly thank you for all your time and considerations for my application. It's my prayer that I will continue my ongoing success at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with the financial support of the Dr. Becky J. Smith scholarship. I look forward to speaking with you regarding this generous scholarship opportunity.

Respectfully,  
DeQuia Rainey