

# Denver Health John Mortensen Burman Scholarships in Nursing Education

John Burman (born in 1955, died in 2019) was an attorney whose career exemplified the Latin term for lawyer, "advocatus". John was a powerful advocate for his clients, most of whom were low-income persons, often immigrants. He spent most of his professional career as a professor of Law at the University of Wyoming. While there, he started and then supervised the Legal Services Clinic. He was a tough and well-loved teacher, winning every teaching award given by the University of Wyoming.

One of John's greatest passions was that of increasing the diversity of Wyoming lawyers and judges. He said that the crowning accomplishment of his career was to serve on the Wyoming Judicial Selection Committee, helping to make the state the first to have the majority of its Supreme Court justices be women.

## **Purpose:**

John loved the idea of a scholarship devoted to increasing the diversity of another profession that was near and dear to his heart – nursing. To honor his legacy of advocacy and diversity, his family is proud to fund the John Mortensen Burman scholarship for nursing at Denver Health.

## **Eligibility**

- Employee must have worked at Denver Health for a minimum of one year and currently working a minimum of 20 hours per week.
- Employee must be in good standing, currently accepted in a baccalaureate registered nurse program, come from an underrepresented group, and submit:
  - o Two letters of recommendation
  - Evidence of financial need (FAFSA required)
  - Educational transcripts
  - 500 word essay reflect his/her plan for contributing to Denver Health's Mission and Education Initiative

#### **Selection Process**

John Mortensen Burman in Nursing Education Oversight Committee, comprised of a multidisciplinary team, establishes the scholarship guiding principles and award criteria to ensure alignment and consistency for all available scholarships. This Oversight Committee is responsible for the annual selection process and names the recipients of the scholarships.

### **Diversity in the Workforce**

Denver Health is an equal employment opportunity employer and promotes diversity in its workforce. In addition, the importance of promoting diversity in the nursing workforce is acknowledged by various nursing agencies and health organizations including the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2013). By providing scholarship opportunities, Denver Health aims to facilitate the entrance of our diverse workforce into nursing positions to better serve the community.

## For questions or additional information, please contact:

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