

Grants to boost training for nurses

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The Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation is directing \$450,000 to a local partnership focused on training nurses for long-term care management, Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation officials said Tuesday.

The area charitable foundation is adding its \$225,000 to a \$225,000 grant from Partners Investing in Nursing's Future. The latter group is a joint effort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation.

The \$450,000 is marked for a partnership between St. John Fisher College's Wegmans School of Nursing and the Senior Health Alliance of Greater Rochester, a five-member coalition of area long-term care organizations.

The alliance and the Wegmans school plan to establish the Academy for Leadership in Long-Term Care at the nursing school.

Long-term care organizations making up the alliance are the Friendly Home, Episcopal SeniorLife Communities, Jewish Senior Life, St. Ann's Community and St. John's Senior Communities.

The nursing leadership academy would help the region train, retain and recruit nurses as it faces a projected nursing shortage, Wegmans School associate dean Marilyn Dollinger said. As the area's population ages, a significant percentage of its cohort of currently working registered nurses is reaching retirement age.

"The Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation is proud to play a role in this critically important initiative through its support of a strong local collaboration designed to strengthen health care delivery to seniors in Monroe County by developing strategies for creating and sustaining a viable nursing workforce," said Donald Whitney, president and foundation trustee, in a statement.

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