

Betty Richardson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Betty Richardson. Betty served as an eligibility worker in the state of Virginia for 34 years. She was one of seven victims of the catastrophic flooding which occurred in and around Richmond as a result of Hurricane Gaston in September 2004.

Betty's co-workers describe her as a nurturing, compassionate, understanding, and dedicated person in all areas of her life. Her special passions were all children and her cats.

Though Betty had reached retirement age, she continued to work for our customers. We, the members of BPRO, establish this scholarship to honor Betty as she honored us by making a lasting impression for all those that knew her.

Provisions

This scholarship will provide the full cost of conference registration for the Fall Conference. Additionally, the scholarship will provide the cost of lodging for the duration of the conference. This shall include the initial night of the conference and any additional nights until the closing session of the conference. Lodging will not be provided for the night prior to the opening session or for the night of the closing session. These costs will be incurred by the recipient of the scholarship.

Funding

This scholarship shall be funded from the \$20 administrative costs received from scholarship recipients, board members, and committee chairs at the spring conference.

Criteria

1. Applicants must demonstrate outstanding customer service, to internal and external customers, which shows understanding and compassion for the individual.
2. Applicants must demonstrate the spirit of social services and how it carries over into the applicant's personal life not just as a job.
3. Applicant must describe a situation that demonstrates how they have had to persevere in the face of adversity.
4. Applicants must show at least one initiative, in which they participated, that improved program delivery in their locality.
5. Applicant must have at least 2 years experience in one of the 3 major program areas, SNAP, TANF or Medicaid.

6. Must have an active BPRO membership for the membership year that began July 1st of the year of the fall conference for which the scholarship is being requested.

Application Procedure

After payment of the membership dues beginning 7/1 of each year, paid members will receive a confirmation of payment email and the application for the Betty Richardson Memorial Scholarship. **All applications for this scholarship must be submitted by 5:00pm on 8/31 of the scholarship award year. All scholarship applications will be sent to the Betty Richardson Memorial Scholarship Committee in care of Henrico DSS.** There shall be 5 committee members which will be selected and established by the Henrico Department of Social Services, Betty's local agency. The committee will decide upon the top 3 candidates for the scholarship and forward these to the BPRO executive board before the regularly scheduled September executive board meeting. The application deadline may be adjusted for those years when the September executive board meeting falls within the same week as the 8/31 deadline. This is to allow at least one week for the committee to meet after the deadline has passed.

The BPRO executive board shall decide the winner of the scholarship and ranking the other two applicants in order of preference. Should the winner of the scholarship not be given permission to attend the conference, the scholarship will proceed to the 2nd finalist. Should the 2nd finalist not be given permission to attend the conference, the scholarship will proceed to the 3rd finalist. If none of the 3 finalists are able to attend the conference, the scholarship will not be awarded that year and the funds designated for the scholarship shall return to the BPRO administrative fee line item.

By the 15th of September, the President shall notify the winner that they have been awarded the scholarship. The scholarship recipient will be given the name of the conference planner for further instruction concerning their registration and hotel bill.

The scholarship is not subject to the \$20 administrative fee which is charged to the spring conference scholarship recipients.

The scholarship recipient will be notified and the winner will be recognized at the fall business meeting of the full membership. They shall also have recognition in the BPRO BEACON and on the BPRO website.

Disclaimer

Members of the scholarship committee, BPRO Board of Directors, and committee chairs are not eligible for this scholarship. Eligibility employees of the Henrico Department of Social services are eligible for this scholarship as long as they are not currently serving on the scholarship committee.

Betty Richardson Memorial Scholarship Application

- 1. Please describe how the applicant provides outstanding customer service, to external and internal customers, which shows understanding and compassion for the individual.*
- 2. Please describe how the applicant demonstrates the spirit of social services and how it is carried over into the applicant's personal life and not only on the job.*
- 3. Please describe a situation in which the applicant has faced adversity and persevered.*

4. *Please describe one initiative, in which the applicant has participated, which improved program delivery in the applicant's community.*

5. *Please provide the number of years of service in each of the benefit program areas.*

If awarded this scholarship, this applicant has permission to attend the BPRO Fall Conference.

Director's Signature or Designee

Date