"Building on the legacy of the Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing...I see it coming full circle and am thrilled that the Nurse Scholars Academy is now available to help nurses actualize their educational pursuits...to be prepared to provide the leadership we need in the future."

Deloras Jones, MS, RN
Class of 1963
Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing

Honoring a Pioneer in Nursing

After nearly 16 years at Kaiser Permanente, Marilyn Chow, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, Vice President of National Patient Care Services and Innovation, has retired.

Marilyn joined Kaiser Permanente in 2000, arriving with a wealth of health care expertise, including front line nursing, academic experience, policy work, and administration. At National Patient Care Services, she worked to enable the delivery of high-quality care. She made significant contributions to nursing through her scholarship, leadership, and civic involvement. Marilyn Chow is widely recognized for her expertise in innovation, regulation of nursing practice, and workforce policy.

Marilyn’s leadership has been instrumental in shaping the role that nursing plays in Kaiser Permanente’s mission and care delivery. This is especially true where innovation and technology intersect nursing practice and compassionate care delivery.

For those of us who have been lucky enough to work with Marilyn, we know the energy, passion, and personal commitment she brings to her work. She is dedicated to improving patient safety and well-being. As a recognized leader in nursing, she inspired countless nurses to take their practice to the next level and remember the profound difference they make in patients’ lives every day.

We extend our appreciation to Marilyn, and wish her the best in retirement.
KFSN Alumni Videos on the Nurse Scholars Academy website:
nursescholars.kp.org/
nursing-legacy

Telling the Story of Nursing
The Nurse Scholars Academy recognized the connection between Kaiser Permanente’s renewed commitment to nursing education and the legacy of its innovative nursing school. The Nurse Scholars Academy highlighted the history and relevance of the Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing by creating a series of videos. The videos profile KFSN alumni sharing their stories. The alumni explain what it was like to be part of such a unique and forward-thinking program. The memories are deep and the stories compelling. There are snippets of shared moments with staff, patients, and their families. These particularly poignant stories help us reconnect with “why we became a nurse.” These videos share the wisdom, compassion, and strength of nurses. They are an important reminder of nursing’s rich legacy, and the significance of nurses to Kaiser Permanente’s past, present, and future.
The Deloras Jones Scholarship is supported by the Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit Program. The scholarship was established in 2000 following the retirement of Deloras Jones. Jones spent her 35-year career at Kaiser Permanente, and was the first system Chief Nurse Executive for all of California’s medical centers. The scholarship fund recognizes the commitment and contributions she made to nursing education and excellence in nursing practice.

2,000 Nursing Students Statewide
Awards are distributed annually in both the Northern and Southern California regions. Since its inception, we have distributed approximately $5 million to more than 2,000 nursing students statewide.

Awards Well Earned
We identified 145 recipients for awards. Given the caliber and number of qualified candidates, we distributed much more than the budgeted $150,000 and awarded nearly $297,500. Almost all recipients were at the 3.8 GPA level or higher. Students came from diverse backgrounds, representing more than 23 nursing programs within California.

Honoring Our Future
We honored recipients and their families at an evening reception in December. Theresa M. Brodrick, Ph.D., RN, Northern California Regional Chief Nurse Executive and Vice President Clinical Integration, provided a welcome. Then, Deloras Jones delivered a keynote address about parallels between the past Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing and the competencies needed for nurses today. The event was a reminder of Kaiser Permanente’s commitment to our community as well as the future of the nursing profession.

— 2016 Deloras Jones Scholarship Recipient

Our most sincere thank you to all those who helped make this report possible.

REFERENCES
References for all articles are available upon e-mail request to the Nurse Scholars Academy at: kpnursescholars@kp.org

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