

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Black Nurses Association Receives \$40,000 Donation From Aetna, a CVS Health Company, to Honor National Nurses Month in May

Funds will support five scholarships and two new NBNA Mini Nurse Academies

SILVER SPRING, MD, (May 26, 2022) – The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) today announced it has received \$40,000 from Aetna, a CVS Health company, in honor of National Nurses Month in May. The generous donation is allocated for \$10,000 in scholarships and \$30,000 to create two new NBNA [Mini Nurse Academies](#) at two designated city schools.

“What a wonderful nurses month gift to our NBNA members and nurses that have worked extremely hard and sacrificed their lives during this pandemic,” said Dr. Martha A. Dawson, NBNA President. “The generous donation from Aetna for the five \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded and presented at our 50th Annual Institute and Conference. In addition, the NBNA Mini Nurse Academy is an integral part of inspiring the next new generation of nurses, and I am elated that Aetna will sponsor two chapters to start the program in two different states! We will announce this grant opportunity during our Mini Nurse Academy Session at the conference.”

The purpose of the NBNA Mini Nurse Academies is to provide students from traditionally underrepresented communities with opportunities to share experiences with professional nurses. The goal is to increase awareness of nursing as a career option for students in third through sixth grades who attend schools in underserved areas. The curriculum includes three interactive content modules to introduce students to the profession of nursing and nursing activities. Local NBNA chapter nurses act as role models and mentors and maintain frequent contact as students continue to junior high and high school.

“Nurses are critical to the health and wellbeing of our members and the population at large,” said Julie Bietsch, Senior Vice President, Aetna Clinical Services. “We are honored to partner with and donate to the NBNA, which serves as the professional voice for over 200,000 African American active and retired nurses and nursing students within the U.S. and around the globe. Their work significantly increases the nursing career opportunities for persons of color, which is essential to solving the significant health equity challenges that people of color face.”

The breakdown on the \$40,000 donation is as follows:

The \$10,000 in scholarships, as part of the NBNA [Scholarships](#) program, will give \$2,000 to five deserving NBNA nurse members to further their higher education endeavors.

The five (5) scholarships will be given to:

- Three (3) undergraduate registered nurse students
- One (1) master’s student
- One (1) DNP or Ph.D. student

The \$30,000 donation will create two new Mini Nurse Academies located at two designated schools in underserved communities. Each school will receive \$15,000 to work with NBNA chapters to establish the NBNA Mini Nurse Academy onsite with a “child-appropriate and friendly simulation lab.” The lab will be outfitted with everything it needs for the program including blood pressure cuffs, CPR kits, simulation manikins (infant, child, adult), skeletons, anatomical organ models, materials, posters, lab coats and pins, and more.

The ultimate aim of the NBNA Mini Nurse Academies is to transform the nursing workforce by educating and inspiring youth from diverse populations to become nurses. A diverse workforce leads to better access to culturally sensitive health care for all Americans.

NBNA will announce scholarship winners and the two Mini Nurse Academies Chapters at the 50th Annual Institute and Conference that will be held in Chicago from July 27-30, 2022. To register and/or find out more information about the conference, go [here](#).

To become a member of the National Black Nurses Association, visit www.nbna.org.

To join the conversation on social media, follow NBNA on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) and use the hashtags: **#NBNA50thConference #NBNAConference22 #NBNANurses #NBNANational #NBNAResilient**

About CVS Health

CVS Health is the leading health solutions company, delivering care like no one else can. We reach more people and improve the health of communities across America through our local presence, digital channels and our nearly 300,000 dedicated colleagues – including more than 40,000 physicians, pharmacists, nurses, and nurse practitioners. Wherever and whenever people need us, we help them with their health – whether that’s managing chronic diseases, staying compliant with their medications, or accessing affordable health and wellness services in the most convenient ways. We help people navigate the health care system – and their personal health care – by improving access, lowering costs and being a trusted partner for every meaningful moment of health. And we do it all with heart, each and every day. Learn more at www.cvshealth.com.

About Aetna

Aetna, a CVS Health business, serves an estimated 34 million people with information and resources to help them make better informed decisions about their health care. Aetna offers a broad range of traditional, voluntary and consumer-directed health insurance products and related services, including medical, pharmacy, dental and behavioral health plans, and medical management capabilities, Medicaid health care management services, workers' compensation administrative services and health information technology products and services. Aetna's customers include employer groups, individuals, college students, part-time and hourly workers, health plans, health care providers, governmental units, government-sponsored plans, labor groups and expatriates. For more information, visit www.aetna.com and explore how Aetna is helping to build a healthier world.

About the National Black Nurses Association

Founded in 1971, the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is a professional organization representing 308,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, and nursing students in 111 chapters and 31 states. The NBNA mission is “to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health.” NBNA chapters offer voluntary hours providing health education and screenings to community residents in collaboration with community-based partners, including faith-based organizations, civic, fraternal, hospitals, and schools of nursing. For more information, visit nbna.org. Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#)! **#NBNAResilient, #NBNACelebrates50Years**

NBNA Media Contact:

Keisha Ricks, Communications and Marketing Manager, kricks@nbna.org

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