The Colorado Women’s Education Foundation announces its 2020 scholarship awards to high-achieving women pursuing economic self-sufficiency through education

CWEF’s Board of Trustees announce the awarding of 22 scholarships totaling $23,000 to women ranging in age from 26 to 55 years old who are attending 13 accredited educational institutions of higher learning. These 2020 scholarships distribute financial support for 22 women working to achieve their educational and career goals and provide the opportunity for more economic self-sufficiency. A recipient shares, “Thank you so much for your investment in my future. Knowing there are organizations that believe in my goals and ability to make a difference serves as confirmation for the path I am on. I am watching my dreams become goals right before my eyes.”

These high achieving women have an average GPA of 3.67, with eight women maintaining a 4.00. They are pursuing quite varied fields of study including business administration, communications, computer-aided drafting, counseling, dental hygiene, educational leadership and principal certification, English secondary teacher licensure, environmental studies, fire and emergency response, nursing, medical coding, Montessori certification, paramedic, project management, social work, special education, speech pathology, and more. One recipient shares, “I want to express how grateful I am that you have chosen to invest in my future. Gaining an education has been a dream of mine for many years. I feel especially honored that an organization such as yours saw potential in me.”

With an average age of 36 years old, six or 27% are first-generation college students. Four women are obtaining certifications, three are working towards associates degrees, eight are earning bachelor’s degrees, six are pursuing master’s degrees, and one woman is in medical school to become a physician. They reside in 17 different cities in Colorado, 32% of the women are racially diverse, and one woman is active military.

Thirteen of these women are caring for and/or supporting 31 dependents and they vary in marital status: 11 of them are single, four are divorced, and seven are married. Another recipient shares, “I am so inspired by CWEF’s generosity and will actively seek to ‘pay it forward’ as I reap the benefits of my education. My gratitude will be apparent in my actions as I go forward into the future.”

The statistics describing these women only tell part of the story, however. The recipients tell CWEF the scholarships help them transcend serious financial constraints, but the most outstanding gift they receive is a sense of pride and emotional support because CWEF is investing in them and their future. Some recipients share that the communication and encouragement they receive from CWEF is equal to or even more significant in value to them than the funding they receive.

CWEF’s mission is to invest in women who are transforming their lives through education… for themselves, their families, and their communities. Since its inception in 1976, CWEF has provided over 600 scholarships to women totaling more than half a million dollars.