The Colorado Women’s Education Foundation announces its 2021 scholarship awards to high-achieving women pursuing economic self-sufficiency through education

CWEF’s Board of Trustees announce the awarding of 25 scholarships totaling $36,000 to women ranging in age from 26 to 47 years old who are attending 17 accredited educational institutions of higher learning. These 2021 scholarships distribute financial support for 25 women working to achieve their educational and career goals and provide the opportunity for more economic self-sufficiency. A recipient shares, “CWEF is such an incredible and life-changing organization and it is making a huge impact on my life. I am extremely grateful for your generous support. I am looking forward to staying connected with you all and giving back to other women.”

These high achieving women have an average GPA of 3.71, with eight women maintaining a 4.00. They are pursuing quite varied fields of study including business administration, counseling, education, educational leadership, English writing, environmental studies, geographic information systems, healthcare, herbalism, human services, upper elementary Montessori, nursing, paramedic, political science, psychology, social work, speech pathology, and more. One recipient shares, “I can tell you that the last couple of years have been quite challenging. This scholarship is a breath of fresh air, and thank you for believing in me. It means more than you know. I am beyond grateful.”

With an average age of 33 years old, 12 or 48% are first-generation college students. Three women are obtaining certifications, four are working towards associates degrees, 10 are earning bachelor’s degrees, five are pursuing master’s degrees, and three women are attaining doctorate degrees: one in occupational therapy and two are in medical school to become physicians. They reside in 18 different cities in Colorado, 32% of the women are racially diverse, and one woman is a veteran.

Ten of these women are caring for and/or supporting 22 dependents and six are single mothers. They vary in marital status: 17 of them are single, two are divorced, and six are married. Another recipient shares, “It has always been my dream to attain a college degree. Now, with your generosity, achieving this dream of being the first person in my family who will graduate with a bachelor’s degree is a reality. I am extremely grateful for the faith you have placed in me and my academic ability in selecting me as a recipient.”

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 650 scholarships to women totaling more than half a million dollars.