



January 27, 2023

Dear North Carolina ASG Leader,

As you may know, UOAA's 8th National Conference is being held this coming August 10 – 12, 2023 in Houston, Texas. We are pleased to partner with WOC Nurses Lara Dupree, Angela Richardson and Jessica Blakeslee, organizers of the Durham, N.C. Run for Resilience Ostomy 5k, on the Sandi McBride Scholarship. A portion of the proceeds from the Durham Run for Resilience Ostomy 5k events has been set aside to offer scholarships to individuals in North Carolina.

The Sandi McBride Scholarship is available specifically to North Carolina residents, or to individuals in a neighboring state who are active members of your ASG. Like the C.A.R.E.S. program, the purpose of these scholarships is to address the needs of the new ostomate and/or first time attendee, especially by facilitating the "emotional healing" that is necessary for someone who has recently had surgery. Attending a National Conference is one of the best ways to learn and see firsthand that an ostomy does not change one's ability to live life to the fullest.

This year, four awards of up to \$1,500.00 per person are available, paid to help reimburse transportation, lodging, and conference registration expenses for the individual who applies. UOAA's C.A.R.E.S. Selection Committee, overseen by UOAA's Board of Directors, will review all applications.

Like C.A.R.E.S. scholarships, the Sandi McBride Scholarship is not an all-expenses paid trip, but a way to help those who could not attend without financial assistance. Please review the program overview and criteria letter that must be met by all applicants. Those who qualify should apply for the Sandi McBride Scholarship, not the general C.A.R.E.S. scholarship program.

Applicants must submit a completed application no later than Monday, April 17, 2023. The applications will be evaluated by the C.A.R.E.S. Program Selection Committee and up to five qualified recipients will be chosen. Applicants who are to receive the scholarship will be notified by Monday, May 8, 2023.

Thank you for all that you to assist people in North Carolina who have had or who may have ostomy or continent diversion surgery!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl M. Ory". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing "O" at the end.

Cheryl M. Ory
President