

SSM HEALTH ST. LOUIS

SSM Health Nursing Excellence Fund



SUPPORT EDUCATION, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION FOR SSM HEALTH NURSES

An SSM Health charge nurse, Annette remembers comforting her fellow nurses when COVID-19 first reached St. Louis. “At first, they were scared to go into the patients’ rooms,” she said, recalling the early uncertainty about how the virus spread. “I told them, ‘I’m scared, too. But we’re in this together.’”

Lifting each other up is at the heart of what it means to be part of a nursing team. In celebration of that spirit, SSM Health supports our nurses as they pursue their continuing education. Annette is one of the beneficiaries of that support; she received a scholarship to help offset the cost of pursuing her bachelor’s degree.

“I have big plans, but I also have a family,” said Annette. “Going to community college and working full time at night, it took nine years to get my associate’s degree. This scholarship has helped me a lot — I’m closer than ever to getting my bachelor’s degree.”

For all the nurses like Annette, SSM Health Foundation - St. Louis is excited to announce the **SSM Health Nursing Excellence Fund**, which supports continuing education for SSM Health nurses as well as efforts to recruit and retain outstanding nursing team members.

The result: better care for our patients and brighter tomorrows for our nurses.



SSMHealth®

Foundation

ST. LOUIS

OUR HISTORY & MISSION

The Mission of **SSM Health Foundation — St. Louis** is rooted in a rich legacy of courage. Just as the Sisters of St. Mary selflessly gave time and energy to collect donations to care for those who are most vulnerable, we seek support to provide care and resources to those who need it most in our community.

Today, our Mission continues to guide us: **Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.** With a shared courage for a common good, our health care providers, staff, donors and volunteers are committed to providing highly advanced, compassionate care to patients and their families.

The support we receive comes to life in many different ways, from ensuring that SSM Health caregivers have access to and training in cutting-edge, life-saving technologies, to funding state-of-the-art facilities, patient-centered impact programs and resources throughout the St. Louis, St. Charles, Metro East and Jefferson County regions.

givetossmhealth.org



THE WHY:

Because Our Nurses Are the Beating Heart of SSM Health

Every office visit, every treatment, every procedure we provide is made possible through their tireless efforts and caring professionalism. The work they do is at the heart of our Mission, and it exemplifies the healing power of our presence in the community.

Making sure our nurses have what they need to be successful in their careers is a priority for SSM Health — not only to express our gratitude for all they do for our patients, but also to create an incentive our hospitals can rely on to attract and retain the very best nursing team members in the region.

WHAT IT COSTS TO BE A NURSE TODAY

*Nurse Journal,
May 2021*



\$100,000+
Doctor's Degree

\$75,000+
Master's Degree

\$40,000+
Bachelor's Degree

\$6,000+
Associate's Degree



THE NEED:

To Foster Our Hospitals' Culture of Nursing Excellence

Like many cities across the country, St. Louis is experiencing a long-term nursing shortage which is only expected to intensify as the average age of our population rises. As a result, many hospitals in our area are experiencing staffing challenges to meet the demand for care services.

At SSM Health, we know that exceptional care starts with exceptional people. That's why we work to recruit, retain and promote nursing team members who exemplify SSM Health's Mission and values.

To help, the SSM Health Nursing Excellence Fund has been created to ensure we are recognized throughout the areas we serve as the employer of choice for nursing professionals.

By creating resources to help our nurses grow in their profession, this program helps our employees pursue a better standard of living for themselves and their families. This makes SSM Health a more attractive choice for potential new hires while also broadening our care teams' skill set, leading to better quality care for our patients.



THE HOW:

By Creating Expansive Opportunities for Our Nursing Team Members to Pursue their Dreams, In and Out of the Classroom

To help our nurses advance professionally, the SSM Health Nursing Excellence Fund offers support for a broad range of educational programs. With the help of generous benefactors like you, we can create amazing opportunities for SSM Health employees* as they pursue:

- Nursing degree programs (associates, bachelors, graduate)
- Nursing certifications (individual and group programs)
- Nursing leadership development training

Plus, you can provide our hospital leaders with the ability to conduct on-site training events for large groups of nursing care teams, welcome guest lecturers, attend conferences and much more. This program's funding can also support human resource efforts to recruit and retain exceptional nurses at all of our hospitals.

SSM Health nurses are there when our community needs them most.

This is our chance to be there for *them*.

*The application and timing of these programs for union-represented employees at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital is a matter of collective bargaining.

Over the Past Five Years in Missouri...



Increase in demand for RNs

98%

Increase in new RNs entering the field

17%

Missouri Hospital Association, March 2021



GENEROUS SUPPORT NEEDED

Help Us Give Back to the Nurses Who Give So Much to Our Community

Now is the time to show our gratitude to the more than 2,000 SSM Health nurses who propel our Mission forward. This is our opportunity to give back to them in a meaningful way — by helping them to expand their professional horizons.

Through your generosity, you can help our caregivers to fulfill their dreams for themselves and their families, and at the same time, you can ensure SSM Health hospitals have access to the most talented, experienced and caring nursing staff available.

**Contact us today to discuss
how you can help.**

314-523-8044

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givetossmhealth.org/contact