



Montgomery County Community College – For Immediate Release

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Transplant Alliance Foundation offers two new scholarships for MCCC students

Date, 2023, Blue Bell, Pa.— Montgomery County Community College students now have access to two new scholarship opportunities, thanks to the nonprofit organization, [Transplant Alliance Foundation](#), based in Pottstown.

The first scholarship, named The Transplant Alliance Foundation Scholarship, is open to students with personal experiences related to organ donation or transplantation, either as recipients or having someone in their family who is an organ donor or recipient. Eligibility criteria for this scholarship includes submitting an essay about the personal experience as a donor or recipient, demonstrating financial need, maintaining good academic standing and enrollment in any MCCC degree program.

The second scholarship, The Mary Jo Lovely Memorial Scholarship, is available for students who have volunteered with Transplant Alliance Foundation. To qualify, students must exhibit financial need, maintain good academic standing and be enrolled in one of the following associate degree programs: Accounting, Business Administration, Culinary Arts, Computer Networking, Cybersecurity, Marketing, Mass Media, Office Management or Web Development & Design.

“The scholarships are one of many ways Transplant Alliance Foundation seeks to help people in the community,” said Danielle Bailey, President and CEO, who has carried on the philanthropic organization’s legacy started by her mother, Mary Jo Lovely.

Transplant Alliance’s roots started growing in 1998 following a series of unexpected events. At that time, Lovely’s husband, Stephen Boyes, passed away. Shortly after his death, Lovely received a phone call from the Gift of Life organization asking if she would honor her husband’s wishes to donate his organs, which she did.

A few years later, Lovely was diagnosed with emphysema and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and to survive, she would need a lung transplant. She was placed on the transplant list, and two years later in 2007, she underwent a lung transplant.

The surgery was successful, and she was doing well for about three years, Bailey explained. Unfortunately, Lovely contracted the swine flu, and her body started to reject the new lung. She

was again placed on the waiting list and after approximately five years, she was the fortunate recipient of lung donation.

Lovely's experience, both as a donor family and then as a two-time donor recipient, motivated her to start Transplant Alliance to help other families facing these circumstances. In 2015, she and her family started Transplant Alliance Foundation as a 501(3)(c) nonprofit. To help raise funds, the Foundation obtained a gaming license in 2017 to operate a bingo hall, [State Street Bingo](#), 799 State Street, Pottstown.

"Since 2017, we have donated more than \$350,000 to help transplant recipients and their families," said Kenya Walker, Executive Director for Transplant Alliance.

Transplant Alliance created the scholarships through the MCCC Foundation to help students and families who have experienced the transplant process and for those who volunteer to help the Transplant Alliance Foundation.

"People don't realize how much a family goes through when a member needs an organ and the tremendous financial burden," Walker said. "We also want to raise awareness of the work we do by encouraging people to volunteer with us."

According to the [Organ Procurement & Transplantation Network](#), more than 42,800 transplants were performed in 2022 in the United States, which was an annual record. The cost for the surgery and pre- and post-care varies, depending on the type of organ, surgery and insurance coverage, Walker explained, but it can be staggering.

Over the years, Transplant Alliance also has helped numerous nonprofit community organizations through its bingo and gaming proceeds, including Gift of Life and Help Hope Live, among others.

"We are a family-oriented organization, and we want to help other families in the area," Bailey said.

Despite Lovely's passing in 2021, her vision persists through the work of Transplant Alliance and its ongoing growth and dedication to aiding the Pottstown-area community. The foundation remains a testament to her commitment to supporting donor recipients and their families.

For more information about the scholarships, contact foundation@mc3.edu or call 215-641-6324.

About MCCC Foundation

Established in 1983, the Montgomery County Community College Foundation provides scholarships for deserving students, grants for faculty projects, equipment and technology, emergency funds for students in need, support for cultural enrichment activities on campus and financial resources for other college programs and activities. The Foundation is able to make a difference in the lives of our students thanks to the generosity of alumni, parents, community friends, private foundations and corporations. To see how you can make a difference and discuss how your gift can be most meaningful to you, contact the Foundation at 215-641-6324 or foundation@mc3.edu.

About Montgomery County Community College

Since 1964, Montgomery County Community College has grown with the community to meet the evolving educational needs of Montgomery County. The College's comprehensive curriculum includes more than 100 associate degree and certificate programs, as well as

customized workforce training and certifications. Students enjoy the flexibility of learning at the College's thriving campuses in Blue Bell and Pottstown and online.

As an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction, the institution is positioned at the vanguard of national efforts to remove barriers to access, improve learning outcomes, and increase completion for all students. The College also is recognized regionally and nationally for its sustainability leadership, work with military veterans, community service and service-learning opportunities, and use of classroom technology. For seven years, MCCC has been named one of the Most Promising Places to Work in Community Colleges in the nation by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development for its commitment to diversity through inclusive learning and work environments, student and staff recruitment and retention practices, and meaningful community service and engagement opportunities. For more information, visit mc3.edu.