

Grants aid families, education

The Skillman Foundation recently approved more than \$4.9 million in new grants at its February 1994 board of trustees meeting, including grants totalling \$763,000 for the Skillman Scholars Program. These grants provide full scholarships for youth from low-income families in the Detroit area to attend selected independent schools.

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital received a grant of \$985,000 over

five years for its "Healthy Start for Oakland County" program. Based on the Healthy Start program in Hawaii, the program seeks to reduce child abuse and neglect by providing family support services and case management for distressed families with infants and newborns.

Other grants made are as follows:

- Fresh Air Society in West Bloomfield — \$40,000 for a summer camp for emotionally impaired children.
- The Michigan Colleges Foundation in Southfield — \$90,000 for general operating support for member colleges.
- Skillman Scholars Program: Cranbrook Educational Community in Bloomfield Hills, \$162,000; Detroit Country Day in Birmingham, \$127,000; and Roper City and Country School Inc., \$47,000.

Surgeon general to speak at Nightingale Awards

Dr. M. Jocelyn Elders, surgeon general of the United States, will be the speaker at the sixth annual Nightingale Awards for Nursing Dinner Wednesday, May 11, at Oakland University.

She is the first African-American and the second woman to become U.S. surgeon general. Nominated by President Clinton, she was confirmed by the U.S. Senate Sept. 7.

OU President Sandra Packard said Elders' function as keynote speaker is appropriate since the dinner "honors outstanding registered nurses (and) since she is a strong advocate of preventative health care in which nurses play such a vital role."

A record attendance of 500 from the health care community and supporters of nursing is expected at the Nightingale

Dinner, which has grown in prestige since inception in 1989 and thus far has honored 20 outstanding nurses. Tickets are available from the Oakland University School of Nursing by calling 370-4081. Individual tickets are \$95 and tables of 10 may also be reserved.

Nearly 100 nominees for this year's Nightingale Awards are now being evaluated. Four registered nurses judged to best embody the spirit of Florence Nightingale (founder of modern nursing, born in 1820 in Florence, Italy) will each receive a commemorative statuette and a \$1,000 cash award.

Runners-up in the four categories — nursing administration, research, education and practice — will also attend the dinner on May 11, which is during National Nurses' Week. The event will be held at the

Shattwell-Gustafson Pavilion on the campus of Oakland University.

The dinner is sponsored by the OU school of nursing and its board of visitors, a group of volunteers who support the school and promote nursing as a profession. President of the board is Boris Sellers. The Beaumont Foundation is a major sponsor of the 1994 Nightingale Awards.

Another feature of the evening will be a silent auction of donated items, which allows the board of visitors to continue providing special support to the nursing school. Last year the board purchased 15 computers and printers now in use for faculty scholarship and research.

The OU School of Nursing grants both bachelor's and master's degrees and has 1,000 day and evening students.

Diabetes Day Conference April 30

Explore current trends in diabetes research and treatment at the 1994 Diabetes Day Conference, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at Embassy Suites Hotel, 28100 Franklin in Southfield.

The seventh annual conference is sponsored by Harper Hospital,

a member of The Detroit Medical Center (DMC), Wayne State University (WSU) School of Medicine and the American Diabetes Association-Michigan Affiliate, Inc.

The program will feature a panel of medical experts, exhibits of state-of-the-art technology and hands-on product demonstra-

tions. Workshops will cover such topics as nutrition, exercise, childhood diabetes and special care for the heart, teeth, kidneys, nerves, feet and eyes. Prizes will also be awarded.

The cost for the conference, lunch included, is \$30 per person. Advance reservations are required. For information and registration, please call 313-745-5000 or 1-800-666-3466.

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