

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 29, 2024

Contact: Catherine M Pepler, Executive Director aaohnfoundationhq@gmail.com

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSES FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2024 GRANT RECIPIENT

Chicago — AAOHN (American Association of Occupational Health Nurses) Foundation is proud to announce the 2024 Scholarship, Academic and Research Grant Awards Recipients, chosen to advance their professional development and/or research initiatives in support of the mission of the AAOHN Foundation. Continuing education scholarships provide the latest educational opportunities and research grants support advancement in research in occupational and environmental health to improve the health and safety of workers around the globe.

Every year, the AAOHN Foundation awards numerous scholarships, academic studies and research grant awards to occupational health and environmental nurses who qualify for these funds. The funds are made possible by our generous sponsors, AAOHN chapters and AAOHN members who have contributed to make these awards available. A special thank you to our 2024 AAOHN Foundation Sponsor: Medique Products whose generous support funds this Grant.

We are excited to announce the 2024 Foundation New Investigator Research Grant recipient, Cara Harris, BSN, RN selected to receive this research is to investigate differences in nicotine exposure levels in long-haul truck drivers (LHTDs) who self-identify as 1) smokers and 2) non-smokers experiencing second - and third-hand smoke (SHS/THS) exposures. Additionally, the research will explore the relationship between demographic factors, Worker well-being domains, and nicotine exposure levels. A topic that supports the current <u>AAOHN Research Priorities</u>: protecting vulnerable workers and the global workforce, the organization of work, human factors, and control of hazards and exposures.

"The 2024 Grant recipient represent the occupational health nurse striving with passion and dedication to deliver quality care to workers across the country and globe every day," said Stephanie Weinsier, AAOHN Foundation Chair. "Our recipients are leaders, innovators, and researchers in the field of occupational and environmental health and safety, impacting workers, the businesses they serve, and the communities in which they live and work. The Foundation is proud to facilitate through charitable funding the continued education, development, and research advances of these recipients as they grow within the profession." AAOHN Members qualify for these funds by meeting a strict set of criteria. They are selected based on a rigorous review by an expert Review Panel, and are chosen based on demonstrated need, future goals, and the potential for future contribution to the profession and organization.

To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation, visit <u>https://www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation</u>

About the AAOHN Foundation

The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Foundation (AAOHN Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, created by the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Inc. (AAOHN) in 1997 to enable occupational and environmental health professionals to improve worker health and safety by preventing workplace illnesses and injuries. These purposes are accomplished through the awarding of grants and scholarships to support ongoing professional education, leadership development, and research initiatives within the field of occupational and environmental health nursing.

AAOHN is comprised of more than 30 chapters and serves over 3,200 members located across the United States, US territories, and the world, with international membership. The AAOHN Foundation is committed to ensuring that occupational and environmental health nurses are seen as the authority on health, safety, productivity and disability management for worker populations by providing them the opportunity to continue their education and conduct research which supports the sustainability of the profession. To learn more about the AAOHN Foundation, visit https://www.aaohn.org/AAOHN-Foundation/The-AAOHN-Foundation.