

Executive Blog Post – June 2024
Emily Moorhead

Empowerment to transform community healthcare

American poet Mary Oliver posed this probing question: “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?” Oliver urges us to take stock and dare to dream beyond the here and now. Henry Ford Jackson Hospital’s dream has been to cultivate a local talent pipeline powered by the people of our own community.

Well, sometimes dreams really do come true. We were overwhelmed with appreciation earlier this year when Alro Steel and the Glick family presented us with an exceptional and impactful endowment gift of \$5M. This endowment allows us to champion the aspirations and potential of local young people and adults while opening doors to rewarding healthcare careers right here in Jackson.

We were well into planning and implementing a workforce initiative with community partners when we were given an opportunity to share our vision for healthcare careers in Jackson with the Glick family. Little did we know the insightful and forward-thinking Al Glick had already directed his family and foundations to bring together community collaborators to develop a plan to address the need for more healthcare workers.

This tremendous endowment, along with our community partnerships, empowers us to transform the future of healthcare and economic development in Jackson. By offering financial assistance for education, along with mentoring and guidance, we will equip community members who could not otherwise pursue a career in healthcare.

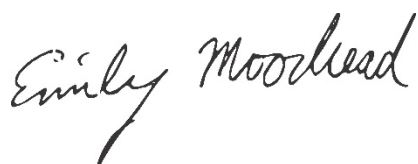
Approximately \$250,000 in scholarships will be awarded annually. Over the first five years that could translate to 180 individual scholarships that will help create a more diverse healthcare workforce. These scholarships will benefit:

- Students seeking certification as a registered nurse, a medical assistant or a surgical technician. Upon completion of certification, recipients will fulfill a two-year requirement of employment at Henry Ford Jackson Hospital.
- Middle school students interested in attending a weeklong day camp to explore careers in healthcare. The camp takes place next week and is in partnership with the Jackson Area Career Center and the Jackson County Intermediate School District.

Realizing this shared dream is a win for the individual, our healthcare system and our community. It’s a beautiful full circle — we provide care to members of our community, who are then equipped through education to join us in caring for even more people.

By [contributing](#) to the Al Glick Scholars Endowment Fund, you can be instrumental in expanding our capacity to offer even more scholarships well into the future.

With gratitude and excitement for our future,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Moorhead". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned at the bottom left of the page.