



1199SEIU HOME CARE INDUSTRY EDUCATION FUND

BASIL PATERSON SCHOLARSHIP FOR HOME CARE WORKERS FUNDRAISER

Since the Basil Paterson scholarship's inception in 2013, generous donations from people like you have assisted 58 home care workers. Here are just a few of their stories:



Jamila Zanafara, worked as a Home Health Aide for six years before becoming a Registered Nurse in 2020 with support from the Basil Paterson Scholarship. She spent several months on a COVID unit at the beginning of the pandemic and now works in the Neuro-ICU at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

// *Although my goal was always to get A's, I also told myself that I have to do well because people are really working hard to help me. I have to make them proud. I want to tell the donors that I'm really grateful."*



Abiwaqqas ("Abi") Laryea, a 2015 scholarship awardee, discovered his passion for care-giving at an early age while tending to sick relatives in his home country of Ghana. He maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.8 at Hunter College while graduating in 2018 with a BS in Nursing. He currently works as an RN in an ICU making \$85,000 per year while pursuing a degree as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

// *The Basil Paterson Scholarship provides a rare opportunity for home care workers. It allowed me to fulfill my dream of becoming a nurse and pursue my passion for caring for other people."*

Home health care aides provide essential care to members of our community most in need. In the past year, these indispensable care givers have faced increased risks to their physical, mental, and financial well-being as they have battled on the frontline of this pandemic. Lack of public awareness and support, along with insufficient access to information, put them at increased risk of contracting Covid-19. Concerns about their finances (from not being able to work), their health, and their patients were prevalent if not overwhelming.

In the best of pre-pandemic times, even home care workers who are fortunate to enjoy the benefits of 1199SEIU membership struggle to earn a living wage while working long, unpredictable hours performing tasks that are physically, mentally, and emotionally challenging.

On April 29th, this year's virtual Basil Paterson Scholarship for Home Care Workers Fundraiser will honor Brian Chesky, CEO of Airbnb for his work to support healthcare workers during the pandemic. Support that included providing 30 days of free housing to 1199SEIU members in NY, NJ, DC, MA, MD and FL, and committing more than \$250,000 to aid healthcare workers.

The Basil Paterson Scholarship was established to help the unsung heroes in home care. Named for the former Secretary of State of New York and counsel to the 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, the Basil Paterson Scholarship provides financial support to home care workers to further their education and advance their healthcare careers.

And just as home care workers are essential, your generosity is essential to the Basil Paterson Scholarship. It simply would not exist without support from donors like you.

Here's what your tax-deductible donation means for a home care worker:

- **\$5,000 provides books and supplies for one bachelor's candidate.**
- **\$10,000 supports an advanced healthcare certification.**
- **\$15,000 pays tuition for a healthcare associate's degree.**
- **\$25,000 covers the costs of a bachelor's degree in nursing.**
- **\$50,000 covers the cost of two bachelor's degrees in nursing.**

Your sponsorship of this event supports education for home care workers enabling them to advance into higher paying healthcare jobs. To make your pledge to the Basil Paterson Scholarship for Home Care Workers Fundraiser, please see the attached pledge sheet or use this link: 1199SEIUHomeCareEd.org/Donate. Sponsors whose pledges are received prior to March 19th will appear on the event invitation.

Your contribution will help change the life of a home care worker who has worked so hard to bring comfort and dignity to the lives of others. Thank you for helping us give back to those who do so much for the ones we love.

All the best,

Sandi Vito

On behalf of the Host Committee: George Gresham (co-chair), Marc Kramer (co-chair), Yvonne Armstrong, Mitra Berhoozi, Irwin Bluestein, Mark Brossman, Maria Castaneda, Daniel Paterson, David A. Paterson, Lee Perlman, Bruce Raynor, Rona Shapiro, Greg Tarpinian.