

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF NURSES

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Historic \$2 million grant to support undergraduate nursing students



Rivier has been awarded a \$2 million grant by the Bedford Falls Foundation to launch the Joanne and William Conway Nursing Scholarship. The largest foundation gift in Rivier’s history, the transformative grant will increase enrollment of full-time undergraduate nursing students over the next five years and support the region’s workforce needs.

The Joanne and William Conway Nursing Scholarship will assist academically qualified students with unmet financial need enrolling in Rivier’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Conway Scholars will receive \$20,000 over four years of study, significantly lowering or eliminating out-of-pocket costs to earn their bachelor’s degrees.

“The Bedford Falls Foundation’s impact on the education of nurses at universities throughout the east coast has been profound,” says **Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President**. “This transformational gift will change the lives of our students, providing them with a path forward to their nursing career and lessening financial burden. Rivier is deeply honored to be the recipient of this extraordinarily generous and impactful gift.”



The Bedford Falls Foundation, established by philanthropist and Nashua native **Mr. William “Bill” Conway, Jr.** and his late wife, **Mrs. Joanne Barkett Conway**, supports a wide range of charitable and educational causes in the eastern United States. “With a nationwide critical nursing shortage, if you can get a nursing degree, you can get a job, and yet many students struggle to afford the degree,” says Bill Conway. “By reducing the financial burden for nursing students at Rivier, we hope to give these students an opportunity for a rewarding career and also to improve the nursing pipeline.” ■

ABOVE: **Luke Sousa** of Barrington (center), New Hampshire, is one of the first Conway Scholars and recipients of the Joanne and William Conway Nursing Scholarship. He is pictured on the day of his acceptance as a member of the Class of 2028 with Dean of Nursing and Health Professions **Dr. Paula Williams** (left) and Director of Undergraduate Nursing **Dr. Judi O’Hara** (right).

Additional information on this generous grant is available at rivier.edu/conwayscholars.