

# Scholarship Spotlight with

# Paige Hawley

The Scholarship Spotlight Series was developed in order to highlight the successes of individuals who received some form of scholarship through the Branch County Community Foundation and now live Branch County. Our current spotlight is Paige Hawley, a Coldwater graduate and alumni of Kellogg Community College's nursing program.

## What the scholarship process did for Paige

Paige received the Jeri Holt Memorial Scholarship through the Branch County Community Foundation. "I don't remember the process being difficult, but it was time consuming. My experience with the Branch County Community Foundation was they were always willing to help and answer any questions I had. The BCCF is a wonderful asset to all of those who live and work in this community."

## After high school

After graduation, I attended Saginaw Valley State University where I began taking courses to obtain my nursing degree. After a semester, I decided to return to Coldwater and attend Kellogg Community College. I was accepted into their nursing program, and graduated in May 2014 with an Associates of Science in Nursing Degree and a General Education Associates Degree. I plan to return to school in the near future to obtain my Masters Degree in Nursing Leadership.

## How did the scholarship you received help your educational experience?

The Jeri Holt Memorial Scholarship helped my educational experience by allowing



Paige Hawley with her husband Bob and two children Emma and Brendan.

me to focus on completing my courses and degree, rather than worrying about how to pay for my classes, books, and equipment.

## What Paige is doing today

I currently work for a healthcare organization

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that works with individuals on Medicaid and Medicare. I manage and provide support for those individuals, as well as set services up for them to be able to safely live in the community versus staying in a nursing home.

### **Advice for those interested in pursuing a similar career**

The nursing career is the most challenging, yet rewarding career you will ever find. This career path affords those in it many different opportunities and continues to grow. While becoming a nurse was one of the most difficult things I have ever accomplished, the experiences I have gained are some that will stay with me a lifetime. Wherever you are in the pursuit of this career path, keep going, and know you can accomplish whatever you set your mind to. This career, while it is tough, will be more rewarding and will offer you lessons and

encounters that will last a lifetime.

### **Why did you return to the area you grew up?**

I always knew I wanted to raise my family here. This community is absolutely wonderful and allowed me many opportunities as I grew into an adult. I wanted my children to have the same (and better) opportunities here.

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*Do you know a Community Foundation scholarship recipient now living and working in Branch County? We'd love to feature them in an upcoming spotlight. Please contact us at 517.278.4517 or [info@BrCoFoundation.org](mailto:info@BrCoFoundation.org)*