

## Meet Cheryl Jeanne Mullins. . .

Cheryl Jeanne Mullins is a student at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The Advanced Education Nursing (AEN) Traineeship she received is easing her family's financial burden and helping her achieve her goal of becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner. She started her career 18 years ago, using her own savings to pay for her Associate and Bachelors degrees in nursing. With three children and a busy family life, she knew her family would not be able to afford for her to return to school. As a nurse, Cheryl Jeanne recognizes the critical role education and teaching plays in the profession. This funding opportunity has sparked an interest in continuing her education further, and becoming nurse faculty.



*“I feel that what I am doing will make a difference not only for me personally but for many others. I am honored to know that the federal government believes so too by providing these grants.”*

### About the Program

- The Title VIII Nursing Education grants provide a federal focus to the supply and distribution of qualified nurses.
- The Title VIII AEN Traineeships assist graduate students by providing full or partial support for the costs of tuition, books, program fees, and reasonable living expenses.
- These grants help fund the education of future nurse practitioners who provide primary care to thousands of Americans.
- These grants also support the education of future nurse faculty who will prepare the next generation of nurses.
- In FY 2008, the funding supported the graduate education of 7,650 nurses.

### The Effect of Funding Cuts. . .

- Our country is facing a critical shortage of primary care providers, such as Nurse Practitioners (NP), which impacts the access, cost, and quality of health care for all Americans. It is imperative that nurses pursuing their graduate degrees be supported so that the crippling national shortage can be reversed.
- Failing to provide adequate Title VIII funding for the AEN Traineeships would impede future NPs from completing their advanced education on time, and diminish their ability to meet America's growing demand for essential health care.
- Additionally, failing to provide funding for the AEN Traineeships limits the ability to prepare the next generation of nurse faculty, and in turn, the ability to educate the next generation of nurses and NPs.



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