Meet Laura Cox. . .

Laura Cox is a student at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, Maryland. Without funding from the Advanced Education Nursing (AEN) Traineeship, Laura would not have been able to enroll in her nursing program full-time, needing instead to have a full time job to help pay her expenses. By being able to enroll full-time, she is able to devote all of her time and energy to studying and developing the skills necessary to achieve her dream and be an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. Additionally, the work she has been able to do due to the financial aid she received has helped her realize her goal of one day becoming a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner.

“I am incredibly grateful for the financial aid I have received. I hope to repay this financial aid by becoming an exceptional psychiatric nurse.”

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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