

Grand Rapids Community College

Increasing access to health care professions



*Increasing education in **health care professions** increases the **prosperity** of both individuals and our region as a whole.*

In order to educate more students in Nursing and Allied Health careers, Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) is renovating four floors of Peter and Pat Cook Academic Hall, located on the GRCC main campus. Renovations to this existing facility will provide 82,900 square feet of space to consolidate Nursing and Allied Health programs with expanded state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, student common study spaces, locker rooms, faculty and staff offices, and reception areas. These capital improvements will allow at least 275 additional students to be served and help address the current nursing shortage in West Michigan.

Conservative estimates from GRCC project a 25% increase in students over the next five years. With enrollment at an all-time high at GRCC (17,000), the Nursing and Allied Health programs are in high demand. The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth estimates high job growth for occupations such as Dental Hygienists/ Assistants (28%), Registered Nurses (26%), Medical Assistants (41.7%), Home Health

Aides (33.4%), and Medical Records/ Health Info Technicians (26.8%) through 2014. Through coordination with four-year institutions such as GVSU, GRCC can act as a “feeder institution” by providing students who have completed their Associate degree with options to continue their education in nursing.

This is Community Leadership.

The health care industry has a significant impact on Grand Rapids’ economy overall and the Community Foundation supports this campaign in particular because it seeks to **increase the number of students who are part of the region’s trained and ready workforce** in the allied health industry.

Grant Facts

Organization: Grand Rapids Community College Foundation

Grant amount: \$375,000

Grant Purpose: To renovate Cook Hall to increase the number of students proficient in work skills related to health careers.

Web site: www.grcc.edu/foundationabout

Started: 1964

Location: College Park Plaza Building, 1st Floor, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

No. served: an additional 275 students

Area served: Kent County and beyond

Ways You Can Help

To help ensure the success of this grant you may give to address any of the needs listed below. Please call GRCC Foundation at 616.234.3932 to learn more.

- **Acquisition and renovations of the former Davenport University campus** – any amount
- **Emergency student grants and loans** – \$500 and up
- **Unrestricted scholarships for students** – \$800 and up

*To ensure the Community Foundation can make grants like this one in the future, please consider a gift to the **Fund for Economic Prosperity**. Please call **616.454.1751** to learn the benefits of Community Foundation giving and how gifts can be made.*



**Grand Rapids
community foundation™**

For **good.** For **ever.®**

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