

ANNUAL ALEXINE WATERFORD WILSON BEY NURSES SCHOLARSHIP



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In 2005, Dorie Miller Post #915 Auxiliary established the Alexine Waterford Wilson Bey Nurses Scholarship in her honor. Our primary platform for this program is to provide financial assistance to students pursuing a nursing career. The scholarships awarded are invaluable monetary resources to nursing students in the Chicago area, assisting with books and tuition over the lifetime of their academic careers.

There are 3 categories in which we award scholarships: General Scholarship; American Legion Junior Auxiliary Member Scholarship; and Freshman Equipment Scholarship.

For the past three years we have reached out to corporations, community groups and non-profit organizations to help us build and empower the future of our Alexine Bey scholarship recipients and those that supersede in years to follow.

Our mission statement is very simple: "To empower nursing students by providing tuition assistance so that they are inspired to fearlessly pursue their dreams and compassionately help others."

ABOUT THE FOUNDER

In 2005 while serving as President of Dorie Miller Post Women's Auxiliary, Dee Reid founded and established the Alexine Waterford Wilson Bey Nurses Scholarship as part of her core responsibility to serve Veterans, children, and the community.

Inspired by Alexine, Dee understands the significance of a nursing career. A future in the field of nursing is rewarding, both financially and spiritually. It provides an opportunity for one more young mind from our community to make a substantive contribution.

One of the goals of the Post is to provide financial assistance to Chicago area students pursuing nursing careers. The desire to enrich the lives of nursing students would be an honor to Alexine's legacy and fulfill one of the goals of the American Legion.

We are very aware that the city of Chicago has one of the highest high school completion rates in the United States. Many of our young high school drop-outs enter the work force with minimum or no work experience, having to accept low wage positions. If we can plant the seed in our youth very early about the numerous opportunities in the field of nursing, we can create many more individuals like Alexine Waterford Wilson Bey in the future.

This program is just one of Doretha "Dee" Reid's efforts to empower our youth for a brighter future. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has given their support to keep this valuable program alive.

ABOUT THE HONOREE

Alexine Waterford Wilson Bey was born and raised in Chicago, IL. She attended DuSable and Wendell Phillips High Schools. Upon graduation at Wendell Phillips, Alexine went on to earn her Nursing Degree at Malcolm X College.

Mrs. Wilson-Bey was the first Black Nurse to be elected as a Board Member of the Illinois Nurses' Association (INA) District 1, and the first Black Director of Nursing for the Baptist Retirement Home in the 1980's. She additionally provided community based Cancer Awareness education in the Black Community and was the recipient of an award from the American Cancer Society for her efforts in educating the African-American community.

Alexine Waterford Wilson Bey was a dedicated member of the Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses Association (CCNBNA) from 1982-2000. During her tenure, she served as the Chairperson of CCNBNA's Hospitality, Ways and Means, and Diabetes Subcommittees.

She also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Beatrice Caffrey Youth Service, Inc. (service organization for delinquent youth) for 26 years, of which, four of those 26 years were spent as the organizations' treasurer. She is now a Board Member Emeritus of this organization and to this day still serves as the Auxiliary's Chaplain.