Dani Sommerdorf Memorial Scholarship
Application for Academic Year 2020-21

This $500 scholarship is intended to encourage individuals in recovery to start or continue their education at Normandale Community College.

CRITERIA:

1. Be currently enrolled at Normandale.
2. Have been in recovery for an addiction for one year or more.
3. Minimum enrollment of 6 credits.
4. Open to new and returning students.
5. No GPA requirements.
6. Letter of recommendation from a sponsor or counselor.

Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society of 2-year colleges. Every two years, PTK Headquarters assigns a new Honors Study Topic, around which the Honors in Action project is completed. The project involves researching an issue, and then taking action to solve that problem. Our 2019 team, Lindsey Siegfried de Sanchez, Zack Knutsen, Suzana Lu, Tyler Huntley, Amberlynn Morgan, Fatima Garza-Ramon, and Grace Johnston, chose to focus on the stigma associated with opioid addiction, and how that has transformed how society treats individuals struggling with addiction. Through our research, we discovered that the widely popular ideas of the 1990s and early 2000s, the idea of “tough love,” was actually the opposite of what helps people overcome addiction. We discovered that strong social connections are key to creating sustained recovery. We realized that community college is a great place to make these connections with others who are also working on bettering their lives. From this, came the idea of this scholarship.

During our project, the project leader lost a karate student to the opioid epidemic. Dani was bright, bubbly young lady, a true athlete, an amazing friend to many, and a wonderful daughter. Unlike many of her peers, she didn’t get to go off to college. Our team chose to name this scholarship after her, as one way to keep her memory alive. The Danielle Sommerdorf Memorial Fund, along with other generous donors, have made this possible.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

☐ Complete sections I, II, III, and IV of this application, on the following page.
☐ Include an essay as described in Section III. Your application will not be considered without this essay.
☐ Your application MUST be received by Amy Wagener before June 1, 2020. Only complete packets will be considered. You may mail your complete scholarship application packet to:

Normandale Community College
Attn: Amy Wagener
Room C 1049
9700 France Avenue South
Bloomington, MN  55431

You may also scan your complete scholarship application and e-mail it Amy Wagener at Amy.Wagener@normandale.edu

DEADLINE: June 1, 2020
I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: _____________________________________________________________________________________

Last    First    MI

Address: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Street               City           State       Zip

Phone Number: _____________________________ (day)    ______________________________ (evening)

NCC Email address: __________________________________________ NCC Tech ID: ________________

(We will be communicating with you via email, the primary means of communication at Normandale.)

II. INITIAL CRITERIA

1. Are you currently enrolled as a full-time or part-time student at Normandale? YES or NO (Please circle one)

2. Are you enrolled for six or more credits at Normandale Community College? YES or NO (Please circle one)

3. Have you been in recover for a substance use disorder for one year or more? YES or NO (Please circle one)

III. ESSAY – This is an important component of your application. Please type a 300-500 word response to the following statements on a separate sheet and attach your essay to your application.

Tell us why you consider yourself to be a good candidate for this scholarship. As a part of this, please tell us about your struggle with substance use disorder and how receiving this scholarship will help you fulfill your educational and/or career goals, while maintaining your recovery.

IV. CERTIFICATION

Applicant certification and permission to release information:

The information contained within this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that misrepresentation or fraudulent information may be grounds for loss of scholarship funds and/or required repayment.

I understand that my application WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED if my application and essay are not completed as instructed, if my essay is not attached. I authorize Normandale Community College to make available to the Normandale Foundation and the selection committee my academic and financial aid records.

If named a recipient, I authorize the Normandale Foundation and Normandale Community College permission to release any (non-private) information listed in this application to the scholarship donors/media, including my photograph. I also agree to thank the donor of this scholarship and attend any events relating to recognition of this scholarship.

Applicant's Signature: _____________________________   Date: ________________