

Your support makes a difference every day

Dear friend of Elm Crest,

For more than 85 years one fundamental constant has made Elm Crest and the other ABHM communities unique; the quality care provided by our staff members. The attention and care given each and every day by these extraordinary people help make Elm Crest a home, and create a community to enrich body, mind and spirit.

In a continuing effort to support caregivers Elm Crest and ABHM created the Kleinpaste Scholarship Fund. The Fund, established and maintained through donations, provides financial support to ABHM caregivers as they seek to further their education in the field of nursing.

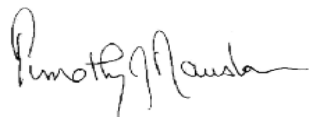
On the following page is the story of one of these exceptional people and a recent ABHM Kleinpaste Scholarship winner, Pedro Perez. Pedro's wish to continue his education and provide care to those in need is just one example of many in our communities and why your donation to the Scholarship Fund is so important.

Your gift to the Scholarship Fund will make a difference in the lives of residents and staff members alike, and will continue to help make our community a home.

Please make your donation today to the Elm Crest Harold W. Kleinpaste Nursing Scholarship Fund by mailing your gift using the enclosed envelope or by donating online at www.ElmCrest.net/scholarship

Thank you for your support,

Sincerely,



Tim Nauslar,
Administrator,
Elm Crest Senior Living Community

P.S. Make your gift today by visiting www.ElmCrest.net and click Donate Now!



Scholarship Helps A Dream Become Reality

Pedro Perez is on the path to achieving his dream.

While working part-time as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Pedro realized what he really wanted was a career in nursing. To reach his goal Pedro earned both his Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license and Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) license.

Two years later, Pedro is a vital member of the staff at Maple Crest Health Center, ABHM's community in Omaha, Nebraska, where his next step is to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). For his LPN education, Pedro needed to go to nursing school which unfortunately, at the time, was financially out of reach.

ABHM's Scholarship Opened the Door

When he applied to Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Pedro was living at home with his parents and a young grandnephew, contributing part of his paycheck to help his mom and family with expenses. As a result, saving money for tuition was very difficult.

However, in February of 2017, Pedro applied for Maple Crest/ABHM Harold W. Kleinpaste Nursing Scholarship, a program that supports ABHM employees pursuing education in the nursing field. Several weeks later, Pedro was notified he had won the scholarship and he immediately started his LPN program.



Certified Nursing Assistant Pedro Perez, a 2017 Harold W. Kleinpaste Nursing Scholarship award winner from ABHM's Maple Crest Health Center, located in Omaha, NE.

Pedro said the scholarship has made pursuing his nursing degree possible. By reducing the financial pressures of continuing education, Pedro is able to balance work and school without sacrificing his studies. "Because of the scholarship," he said, "I work less while in school and I can focus on my education."

A Long-Standing Dream

Pedro's specific focus on nursing is a more recent development, but he's

wanted to go into medicine since he was a child. "I always wanted to be a doctor," he said. "I was really eager to go into medicine. My mom encouraged me to do it because I liked to take care of people."

As he grew older, his dream became more specific and he narrowed his focus from doctor to EMT to nurse. Pedro stated, "I learned about long-term care and realized there was a great opportunity to improve the quality of life for residents. That's when I decided to go into long-term care, I wanted to be the person who made a difference in their lives."

"I take pride in knowing that our residents care for me as much as I care for them," says Pedro.

Getting his LPN license is just the next step in Pedro's dream. After he finishes his LPN program, he plans to move on to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, followed by a master's in gerontology. Eventually he hopes to earn his Nurse Practitioner's license, and he's even given thought to pursuing a PhD.

Making a Difference

There's one dream that Pedro has already achieved: making a difference in the lives of people in long-term care. During his time at Maple Crest, Pedro has become a favorite among many of the residents. "There are some residents that ask for me specifically," he said. "It can be



Pedro Perez with Maple Crest resident Dorothy Johnson

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a lot of responsibility, but I like to take the time to help the residents and make a connection."

"When I have extra time, I make sure to sit down with residents and just talk. I ask them about their leg, or how their week is going, those conversations really help improve their morale and cheer them up."

"I take pride in knowing that our residents care for me as much as I care for them," says Pedro.

Embodying the Spirit of ABHM's Mission

Pedro is as popular among the Maple Crest staff as he is



Like all ABHM communities, Maple Crest Health Center's Benson Hall nursing team strives to provide superior care to all of its residents.

he is helping coworkers or providing therapeutic conversation to our residents, Pedro brings positivity and knowledge to each task." She continues, "Pedro exemplifies the spirit of ABHM's mission to create an environment that provides self-worth, hope, and dignity for all of our residents."

among the residents. His supervisor, Alison Stockamp, has nothing but positive things to say about Pedro and has him involved in the new employee Mentor Program.

Alison said, "Pedro has become an invaluable member of our team. Whether

Employees like Pedro make a difference in the lives of residents every day across all ABHM communities. If you or your loved one have been positively impacted by ABHM employees and would like to show your appreciation, we encourage you to donate to the ABHM Harold W. Kleinpaste Nursing Scholarship fund in your community. For more information, visit ElmCrest.net/scholarship