

## **CA Foundation Helps Fulfill Dream for Rural Nursing Student**

One young Minnesota student recently sent a letter of thanks to CA Foundation Chairman Milt Smedsrud for an educational scholarship she received. Following are excerpts of her letter that describes the tremendous positive impact this scholarship has made for her, her family and her community:

*Currently I am in the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program at Minnesota State College in Fergus Falls, Minn. Last year I decided to change my career path from a Psychology/Sociology major to a Nursing major. Last spring I took a class to become a certified nursing assistance (CNA) through the college, and found that I loved the work I was doing. However, the love for what I am doing is not the only inspiration to my career change. I have a nephew who has faced many medical challenges since his birth, and I found that the nurses who helped him were wonderful and inspiring to me. I saw that they had a sincere need and want to help their patients.*

*So, since I began the LPN program, my nephew has been my driving force to succeed and make a difference in the lives and families of others. I am currently in my second semester of the nursing program, making my career aspiration a reality. I just finished my first clinical rotation at a local veterans home, and in the next couple weeks will be heading to our regional hospital for my next rotation. Once I complete the LPN course in May and pass my state boards, I plan on furthering my education to become a Registered Nurse (RN). After I become an RN I would like to continue my schooling to receive my Bachelors in Nursing.*

*I am able to dream and go after my career aspirations largely in thanks to the generous scholarship opportunity you have given me. Because of your scholarship I am able to focus more on my school work and I do not have to work as much during the school year. I thank you so much for your support of me and the Minnesota State program. This opportunity has impacted my family and me in such a positive way, and I feel that I am doing justice to what my parents had in mind when it came to making education, success, and hard work important priorities. Above all, I feel that I'm striving to become someone who will change the world and have a positive effect on many people.*

*-CA Foundation Nursing Scholarship Recipient*