



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Spokane Medical Students Named Recipients of Bill Sherman, MD, Memorial Scholarship**

SPOKANE, WA---The Spokane County Medical Society Foundation is excited to announce Melanie Barnes and Justin Thompson as the 2017 recipients of the Bill Sherman, MD, Memorial Scholarship.

The Spokane County Medical Society Foundation (SCMSF) is committed to medical education and as a demonstration of this commitment offers a scholarship for two students. Beginning this year, the scholarship covers the costs to attend leadership training at WSMA's upcoming Annual Leadership Development Conference in Chelan, Washington, on May 19 and 20, 2017, including travel to and from Chelan and hotel for two nights. WSMA covers the student meeting registration fee.

"The Scholarship committee was impressed with Barnes' and Thompson's commitment to primary care and the desire to improve their leadership skills by attending the upcoming conference," stated Dr. Clint Hauxwell, SCMSF President.

This scholarship is for medical students interested in developing their leadership skills. To be considered, applicants must be medical students in their first year of medical school. Each applicant was required to provide a one-page statement documenting their professional goals and interest in healthcare leadership, two letters of recommendation, and a statement of "Good Standing" from their current educational institution.

"I'm incredibly thankful for this award," said Melanie. "Not just for the opportunity it provides me, but for the support and investment it represents in our future. I am excited to become a practicing physician in a community that grows and develops itself deliberately."

"I believe that a physician's ability to lead goes a long way towards ensuring that all members of the care team feel supported and valued, and that patients receive the highest possible quality of care," Justin stated. "I also realize that being an effective leader, much like the practice of medicine, is a process of lifelong learning. With this in mind, I am very grateful to the Spokane County Medical Society Foundation for providing me the opportunity to learn these skills alongside physicians who put them into practice on a daily basis."

The Bill Sherman, MD, Memorial Scholarship Fund was created in honor of Bill Sherman, MD, who was a psychiatrist in Spokane and was passionately interested in medical education and health policy. The first consideration of the award is for two Washington State students who envision pursuing Primary Care in Spokane County.

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