



January 25, 2021

**WEST VIRGINIA HOUSING INSTITUTE, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS 2021**

West Virginia Housing Institute, Inc. is pleased to announce the winners of this year's scholarships totaling \$4,500. The winners were chosen from twelve entries by a random drawing held at the WVHI office in Charleston on Tuesday, January 19. Eight of the twelve entries qualified for the Kevin and Donna Wilfong scholarship, being a student residing north of Flatwoods. **The winners are as follows:**

Joshua Rice - \$1,500 (Kevin and Donna Wilfong Scholarship)

Drew Sams - \$1,000

Kimberly Gunnell - \$1,000

Carlee Sang - \$1,000

Congratulations to all the winners and for all of our other applicants please try again next year if eligible! Carlee was the very first application we received this year and Joshua squeaked in under the wire at the last minute on the 15th, so it doesn't matter when you enter just remember to enter!

Joshua Rice is a student at WVU and the son of Jim Rice from AAA Homes, a retailer that has been in business for many years and owner of several communities. He is majoring in both Computer Engineering and Computer Science after graduating number one in his class at Magnolia High School and has a 4.0 grade point average at WVU. Joshua and his parents have expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to win this award.

Drew Sams is also a student at WVU and is the son of Ron Sams, general manager of Freedom (Clayton) Homes in Gallipolis, Ohio. Drew is a sophomore majoring in Sport Management and minoring in General Business. He has just begun an internship with the WVU football program in the Video Department and also works part time, all while maintaining a 3.54 grade point average. Ron and Drew were grateful when they heard the news and we wish Drew all the best in his studies.

Kimberly Gunnell is a student at Marshall University and sent this in when notified of her award: *"I would like to thank you all for selecting me for this wonderful scholarship opportunity! I am thrilled to use this to cover my final semester's tuition for my Master's degree in Literacy Education at Marshall University! I am currently working in Charleston, WV at Piedmont Elementary School as a third grade teacher. It has been wonderful to work with students from my home state! I hope in working towards a career goal, I will be able to reach more students and instill a love for reading in every student. Thank you again, WVHI!!"* Kimberly is the daughter of George Gunnell, our WVHI Co-President and Clayton Regional Vice President-WVA.

Carlee Sang is in her first year at Marshall University majoring in Communication Disorders and has maintained a semester grade point average of 4.0. She completed over 30 hours of college classes in high school and has been labeled as a sophomore, which will allow her to graduate early. Carlee is the daughter of Brent Sang of French City Homes in Gallipolis, Ohio and the granddaughter of James D. Staats, a second generation owner. Carlee has worked past summers at the retail center and is grateful to have the opportunity to receive a scholarship from WVHI. When notified of her win she said *"Thank you so much!! That made my whole day!!"*