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Earl Maxwell
CEO, St. David's Foundation



Paul Alexander Gonzales
Kocurek Scholarship Recipient

ST. DAVID'S FOUNDATION CALLS FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS *St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship Fund to Aid Central Texas Students Pursuing Healthcare-Related Careers*

WHO: St. David's Foundation and the Neal Kocurek Scholarship program

WHAT: St. David's Foundation today announced that the deadline to apply for a scholarship from the 2012 St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship Fund is **Friday, February 24, 2012**.

Applicants must be graduating high school seniors from within the school districts of Travis, Williamson or Hays counties and in pursuit of healthcare-related careers. The St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship Fund provides each scholarship recipient with \$6,000 per year for up to four years' undergraduate and two years' graduate studies, to be used for tuition and other expenses at a Texas university or college.

"We want to make sure that every eligible student here in Central Texas who is planning to pursue a healthcare-related career knows about the availability of these substantial scholarships," said Earl Maxwell, Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation. "This year's recipients will be joining our existing group of 199 Neal Kocurek Scholars who have already benefited from the support provided by the program."

Since 2005, more than \$4 million in scholarships have been awarded to Central Texas students, who are attending 27 colleges and universities.

As part of the St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship program, a mentor from St. David's HealthCare is paired with each scholarship recipient, providing students with the opportunity to interact directly with healthcare professionals in their chosen career.

"The St. David's Foundation gives me more than financial stability - it gives me the resources I need to be successful, and the motivation that I have some of the country's greatest leaders helping me through my college education," stated Paul Alexander Gonzales, Kocurek Scholarship Recipient, majoring in Biomedical Engineering, University of Texas at Austin. "Without the St. David's Foundation, I could not afford to live or study where I do today, and I am gratefully thankful for their ongoing generosity."

Funds for the scholarships are raised annually from Toast of the Town, a series of fundraising parties held each spring. Proceeds from Toast of the Town are matched by the St. David's Foundation.

WHEN: All applicants must complete an online application, which can be found at www.stdavidsfoundation.org. The application deadline is midnight, February 24, 2012. Finalists must be able to attend an in-person interview the week of April 30, 2012.

THE ST. DAVID'S NEAL KOCUREK SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

St. David's Foundation established the St. David's Neal Kocurek Scholarship Fund to honor its late President and CEO, W. Neal Kocurek, Ph.D. (1936-2004). The scholarship program seeks students who embody Dr. Kocurek's commitment to leadership and community service in Central Texas.

ST. DAVID'S FOUNDATION:

St. David's Foundation strives to make the promise of a better life by improving health and healthcare for all Central Texans. As a joint owner of St. David's HealthCare, the Foundation invests the proceeds from the hospitals directly back into the community. In 2012, the Foundation will invest more than \$40 million in the community through grants to mental health agencies, agencies serving the elderly, ill and homeless, and many of the area's private safety net clinics, and the St. David's Dental Program. For more information on St. David's Foundation, visit www.stdavidsfoundation.org.