

## The Claudia Ulatowski Caregiver Memorial Fund



The Claudia Ulatowski Caregiver Memorial Fund is funded by her daughter and son-in-law, Leah and Alexander Curry. The goal of the fund is to provide \$500 to assist a caregiver who is a family member of someone with a cognitive disability, including Autism, Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injury and more.

HearthStone of Wisconsin understands the unique journey faced by parents, siblings, guardians and anyone else taking on a caregiver or supportive role. These supports are desperately needed in the lives of those with a cognitive disability, but it is important to ensure that caregivers and advocates have the proper support, too, which the fund hopes to assist with in some small way.

It will be awarded to one individual each year and can be used in almost any way that would improve the recipient's quality of life. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Furthering the educational pursuits or professional development of the recipient
- Respite or similar services
- Family medical expenses
- Equipment, technology or accessibility renovations to help with caregiving
- Individual or family counseling or other mental health services
- Realizing an individual or family dream (a special trip, etc.)
- Self-care services or retreats to promote well-being of recipient
- A cause or community project close to recipient's heart

To apply to the fund, one must meet the requirements and submit the necessary materials outlined on the application form by June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. One individual will be determined, and the check given directly to the chosen recipient; others remaining may apply again the following year.

The fund honors its namesake who passed away suddenly in 2015 at the age of 47 from a brain aneurysm. Claudia Ulatowski was a brilliant and empathetic child who grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was known for writing quotes by Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. on her white sneakers while her peers were admiring pop stars. She was a first-generation Mexican American and withstood countless struggles throughout her short life by clinging to her Christian faith. Ultimately, she found her purpose in serving as the full-time caregiver to her three beloved sons—Jared, Timmy, and Jacob, who have severe Autism—until her death. Her dream was for more people in her position to be heard, loved on, and supported on their journeys.

# The Claudia Ulatowski Caregiver Memorial Fund Application

## Applicant Information

Name (First and Last) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Care Recipient Information (who you care for)

Name (First and Last) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Disability \_\_\_\_\_

## Requirements

- Must be 18 years old or older and a Wisconsin resident
- Must be a family member who is a caregiver to someone with a cognitive disability and has an active role in that person's life
- Must provide a 300-500 word essay OR a three-minute video recording that:
  1. Describes your active role in the life of the family member you care for and what supports you offer
  2. What the money would mean to you and how specifically it would be used
- Must provide proof of relationship to the individual with a disability, which could be any official document, or a note from a caseworker, physician, therapist/counselor, special education teacher, or a supervisor if working for an employer such as IRIS
- Must provide a personal recommendation letter (from a family member, pastor, friend, etc.) stating why you would be a good fit
- Must sign and include the 'Photo and Information Release' form
- Must provide a photo of yourself for use specified in release form
- Please submit application and attachments by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year to either:

### **By Mail to:**

HearthStone of Wisconsin  
Attn: Education Committee  
PO Box 1444  
Sheboygan, WI 53082-1444

– OR –

### **By Email to:**

education@hearthstonewi.org

*By signing below, I certify that I am of 18 years of age or older, meet all above requirements, and that all provided information is complete and true.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature