

**BESSIE'S HOPE SCHOOL - TO - CAREER
WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT
Cultivation for Geriatrics and Long Term Care**

- Eligibility: High School and College

Students are eligible after attending the Bessie's Hope education/training session and participating in at least three Bessie's Hope elder care visits. Also, they have to have demonstrated traits that all care providers should have: compassion, respect and empathy for the elders. Thus, the Bessie's Hope participants are aware that the elders are vast resources of knowledge and wisdom. They now know that the elders have much to offer all younger generations. Because of our training, they are able to have meaningful interaction with elders of all levels of cognitive functioning, including advanced Alzheimer's Disease.

- Bessie's Hope provides materials for youth and parents, Group Leader and Youth or Student Organization, and Elder Care staff. After the initial visits, all entities sign the applicable form for participation.
- Bessie's Hope elder care partner provides a 1-hr presentation by staff and contract professionals, after which the students write an essay expressing what they have learned, what their feelings are toward the elders, and if there are other positions that weren't included in the presentations in which they might be interested. They may also include in the essay a position/staff person they would like to "shadow."
- Youth/Students shadow selected elder care staff persons or contract professionals.
- Youth/Students are given the opportunity to tour and explore jobs/professions at CU Medical School Geriatric Division, Anschutz Medical Center.
- Each Youth/Student composes an essay, describing the reasons for being interested in working in the field of geriatrics and/or long term care, and expressing what he/she will bring to the job and to the elders.
- Bessie's Hope provides a Certificate of Completion.
- Elder care partners and CU Geriatric Division may offer internships, volunteer positions or paid positions.

AWARDS:



