

With the money, I received as the recipient of the 2017 Annette Haag Scholarship, I was able to attend the AAOHN National Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. While attending the conference, I was able to network with other Occupational Health Nurses from other states and learn about different laws and reporting standards that they work under. This was an important aspect for me as I work for a company that has employees in more than one state and finding out the different laws and standards allowed me to take that information back to my co-workers to help understand why supervisors in one Resort were requiring more detailed reports while the other Resort found the extra details to be unnecessary.

I was also able to attend several informational lectures that provided information concerning new practices and laws that were recently enacted or are expected to be required in the near future. They also taught me new methods that are now being used in the tools that we use in health and safety. I was able to take all this information not only back to my co-workers but also to my local AAOHN Chapter Meeting.

The AAOHN National Conference has inspired me to encourage others within my local AAOHN Chapter and at my employment to become more involved with their AAOHN and to attend any AAOHN conferences they are able to become better informed and therefore better Occupational Nurses for both their employer and the employees they take care of.

Cheryl L. Farmer