



Now Accepting Applications!

The Brenda Seagrave-Whittle Social Worker Award

Are you a dedicated social worker making a difference in your community? The *Brenda Seagrave-Whittle Social Worker Award* provides financial support to one outstanding Community Health Center (CHC) employee committed to social work and improving community health.

Award Details

The awardee will receive a one-time **\$4,000 scholarship** to be used for education or other resources to support their career development. Funds may be used for:

- Tuition, books, and other required educational equipment
- Personal or leadership development resources

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible individuals must:

- Have **at least one (1) year of full-time employment** at a Rhode Island Community Health Center
- Be an **active CHC employee in good standing** (not on leave of absence)
- Be **currently pursuing or have completed a:**
 - Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)
 - Master of Social Work (MSW)
 - Equivalent degree
- Demonstrate a **passion for social work and patient advocacy**

Apply today!

To apply for the Brenda Seagrave-Whittle Social Worker award:

- Complete an online application [HERE](#)
- Email a copy of your resume or CV to gstout@rihca.org
- Ask your employer to complete the *Employer Attestation Form* [HERE](#)

**Applications and supporting documents must be
received by September 14, 2026**

Questions?

Email mcampbell@rihca.org

About Brenda Seagrave-Whittle

Brenda Seagrave-Whittle has dedicated her life to serving and advocating for others. Growing up during the social and political movements of the 1960s and 1970s, she became deeply committed to social justice, leading a high school walkout in protest of the Vietnam War and volunteering in college at local domestic violence and crisis centers. There, she provided emotional support to survivors, reinforcing her lifelong commitment to helping vulnerable individuals.

After earning a degree in psychology and pursuing graduate studies in counseling, Brenda began a more than 30-year career in healthcare advocacy. She worked at Thundermist Health Center, St. Joseph Hospital, and Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, where she spent over two decades supporting members and providers before retiring in 2025. Throughout her career, Brenda championed access to quality healthcare and exemplified the vital role social workers play in addressing both clinical and social needs. Her holistic approach to care helped bridge the gap between healthcare services and overall well-being, a mission she continues to support in retirement.