



## Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation

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### **Presidential Scholar Award presented to Sydney Hansen**

MADISON – The Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation has named Medical College of Wisconsin student Sydney Hansen its 2017 Presidential Scholar. Hansen received the prestigious award from Foundation President Claudia Reardon, MD, during the Foundation’s Annual Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction in Wisconsin Dells April 21.

Funded by current and past leaders of the Wisconsin Medical Society, the award is presented annually to a student entering his or her fourth year of medical school who has exemplified the attributes, skills and desire to become a leader in the medical profession in Wisconsin. This year, the award was given in honor of past Wisconsin Medical Society presidents, Raymond C. Zastrow, MD, and John E. Dettman, MD.

Hansen, who received an engraved award and a \$3,000 scholarship to assist with educational expenses, is working with the Wisconsin Medical Society and the Child Advocacy team at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin to develop a module that will become a lasting part of medical education and increase awareness of sex trafficking of children and teens in Wisconsin. She also was elected national coordinator of the Society of Student-Run Free Clinics, a role in which she aspires to advocate for the underserved by uniting dedicated and driven multidisciplinary professional students in the pursuit of improving care.

In a letter of support for Hansen’s application, Pediatrics Professor Marlene Melzer-Lange, MD, said, “As a Wisconsin Medical Society member, I am proud to work with Sydney in improving healthcare and medical education. I believe Ms. Hansen’s leadership and contributions to the medical and local community as a medical student have demonstrated her character and potential to be an outstanding future Wisconsin physician leader.”

The [Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation](#), chartered in 1955 as a charitable organization, works to advance the health of the people of Wisconsin by supporting medical and health education and statewide public health initiatives.

With more than 12,500 members dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the [Wisconsin Medical Society](#) is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.

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