



I stand with WISHARD

MARY RYDER-TAYLOR
Community Philanthropist

“We all owe it to ourselves to give back,” says Mary Ryder-Taylor who, in 2004, donated a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to the George H. Rawls, M.D. Scholarship Fund in memory of her daughter.

In 2003, Mary’s daughter, Doris, the youngest daughter born to her and her late husband Dr. Eugene Taylor, passed away suddenly at only 47 years of age. A physician specializing in oncology, Dr. Doris Taylor was considered an exceptional, caring doctor and a respected and competent scientist.

“When Doris passed away, I felt that donating the money she had left in her will was the best possible way to recognize her and all of her hard work,” says Mary. “She was the most caring person. It was just the right thing to do.”

Research consistently demonstrates that patients treated by a physician of similar culture and ethnicity experience better clinical outcomes and improved patient satisfaction. Yet, the cost of medical school deters many of the brightest minority students from pursuing a career in medicine. The Rawls Scholarship Fund provides full-tuition grants for minority students at the Indiana University School of Medicine. In return, each grant recipient agrees to provide healthcare to Indiana’s indigent population for at least one year.

After her daughter’s death, Mary asked family friend Dr. George Rawls if there was a promising student whom she might help put through medical school. The young medical student with whom she was matched, Danielle Motley, is just such a person.

Although Mary never wanted to be a doctor or nurse herself, she believes we must “seek out the people who have natural strengths in medicine and encourage them.”

Originally from Kentucky, Mary moved to Evansville, Indiana, when she was just three years old. Mary received both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Butler University. She spent an entire career working in the field of education and as an educational consultant. “Most people who have done anything worthwhile in life have struggled,” she says. “But no matter what your background or where you come from, you have a choice.”

Mary has chosen to support the Rawls scholarship fund and Wishard because of the visionary approach they have embraced to promote diversity in the IU Medical School program.

“Wishard has a well-published record of caring about all patients in an equitable manner.” ●

INSIDE WISHARD

No single hospital in the state provides more clinical medical education than Wishard. Two-thirds of all physicians practicing in Indiana received medical education at Wishard.