

KIMBERLY COFFEY FOUNDATION MEMORIAL NURSING SCHOLARSHIP – 2025

Kimberly Coffey was 17 years old and a senior in 2012 at East Islip High School when she died from Meningitis B one week before graduation and three months before starting her nursing education at Molloy College. In honor of Kim's beautiful spirit and her dream to become a pediatric nurse, the annual Kimberly Coffey Foundation Memorial Nursing Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving senior pursuing a career in nursing. We hope to keep Kim's memory present at East Islip High School, where she was loved by so many.

Although Kim was up to date on all her vaccinations, including the meningococcal meningitis vaccine, she had contracted meningococcal serogroup B (Meningitis B). Most have received the meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) at age 11 with a booster at age 16. Unfortunately, that vaccine only protects against four of the five serogroups of meningococcal meningitis and does not protect against serogroup B. The Meningitis B vaccine was not available to help protect Kimberly in 2012; however, it is available in the U.S. since 2014. It is important to know that the NYS meningitis vaccine requirement does not currently include Meningitis B vaccination. **Meningitis B has been responsible for all the meningitis outbreaks on our U.S. college campuses since 2011.** Visit kimberlycoffeyfoundation.org to learn how meningococcal meningitis is transmitted, its symptoms, and how to be best protected.

To be considered for the Kimberly Coffey Foundation Memorial Nursing Scholarship, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- ☐ East Islip High School Senior
- ☐ Minimum GPA of 3.2 (transcript must be provided)
- ☐ Provide acceptance letter from an accredited BSN nursing program (**contingent/conditional acceptance letters will not be accepted**)
- ☐ Provide documentation of receiving the meningococcal vaccination (MenACWY) and booster, if indicated (Brands are Menactra, Menveo, or MenQuadfi)
- ☐ Provide documentation of starting/completing a meningococcal serogroup B (MenB) vaccination series (Brands are Bexsero or Trumenba)
- ☐ If applicable, provide documentation of receiving the new combination MenABCWY meningococcal vaccination (Brand is Penbraya)
- ☐ Provide a reference letter from one or more high school teacher(s)
- ☐ Provide a brief essay (250 words or less) stating why they have chosen nursing as a career **AND** why they feel they are deserving of this scholarship which is in Kimberly's memory
- ☐ Provide their name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address on a separate page

