



## The Summit Scholarship

**In March** of 2007, I will begin my ascent to the top of Mount Everest. Conquering the world's highest mountain will be the final chapter in my seven-year quest to climb the Seven Summits of our planet. Each continent has its highest peak, and by this summer, I will be the first Registered Nurse in the world to have seen them all.

As the eldest of 9 kids, while growing up on a farm in Almonte, Ontario Canada, I was made aware of my passion to care for people. Now my personal duty is to encourage my students, my colleagues, and my world to believe that everyone has potential to elevate their lives - through a healthy lifestyle, leadership, communication and teamwork. I have found all of these gifts through my 30 year career in nursing, and I am proud to be able to share these gifts as a faculty member of the University of South Carolina's College of Nursing.

You may have already heard of the increasing shortage of nurses in America, Canada and the international community. I climb to draw attention to this severe healthcare environment, which will have very real consequences if not addressed. Every year, nursing programs across the nation must turn away over 26,000 bright, aspiring nursing students because of a shortage in faculty and funding for students who do not have the financial means to reach their goal. For this reason, I have worked with the USC College of Nursing to establish a scholarship fund intended for nursing students and entitled the Summit Scholarship. Nursing students need help. Well-educated nurses save more lives.

I ask you to think of when you, your parents, your children, your family and friends have needed a nurse's help – it is a reality of the human experience.

*I cannot imagine a world without nurses.*

For this reason, I will climb to top of the world in honor of the profession. You can help me call attention to the legacy of caring that is vital to our lives and the core of what a nurse must be. Please consider the ideals that we share as people who reach out to other people, and please consider a contribution. Click here to the [Summit Nursing scholarship](#) at the USC College of Nursing.

**Nurses save lives.  
Through this scholarship, you can help.**



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