Alexandra Connelly

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ONS Membership Number: 815748

Purpose of Scholarship: ONS Congress

03/10/2022

Boston Chapter (BONS)

Oncology Nursing Society

BONS Social Media Coordinator

Email: [BONSSocialMedia@gmail.com](mailto:BONSSocialMedia@gmail.com)

Dear **Boston Chapter (BONS)**:

I am writing in response to your scholarship application. I am currently a \_Newly Licensed Nurse in the Research Nurse Residency Program\_\_ at \_\_\_Dana-Farber Cancer Institute\_\_\_ and have been in this position for the last \_\_6 months\_\_. Over the past 2 years, I have been \_a member of National Student Nurses’ Association, a Clinical Assistant at Dana-Farber, and BLS certified\_\_\_\_.

My name is Alexandra Connelly, and I am extremely honored and excited to be applying for the Boston ONS Scholarship to aid in attending the ONS Conference in April. For the past 4 years I have centered my efforts and education around Oncologic care at Dana Farber Cancer Institute. I began as a Junior Volunteer, then became a Clinical Assistant, and have since continued to grow in the field with my new position as a Newly Licensed Nurse in the Research Nurse Residency Program. The role of a Research Nurse is quite extensive, as it encompasses administrative work with protocol development, research tasks pertaining to registration of patients on trial, and most importantly clinical aspects that reflect treatment and patient care needs.

The new role I have settled into has enhanced my knowledge and experience in Oncologic care, and I believe attending the ONS Congress will supplement such and provide an opportunity to grow professionally in the field. Through the residency program I have gained experience in the Gastrointestinal Oncology clinic and the Neuro Oncology clinic, both of which often have poor prognosis, and thus I have focused a lot of my effort in understanding the role of Palliative Care. To build on my newfound knowledge and ability to communicate with patients regarding end-of-life care, I am hopeful to attend the Medical Aid in Dying Session on April 27th to better understanding MAID and bring this crucial topic to my practice.

As a Newly Licensed Nurse, attending this conference will not only provide me with a wealth of knowledge, but it will also remain as my first professional development opportunity. Pertaining to the information I obtain at conference, I plan to not only educate the patients on new interventions but also introduce topics of quality improvement to the care team and barriers to healthcare that may be present. Personally, I plan to build on my foundational understanding of cancer care and become inspired to one day be a mentor myself. I would be grateful for the opportunity to attend.

***If awarded a BONS scholarship, I agree to serve on the Program Committee in the following year or provide a presentation to the BONS membership.***

I look forward to discussing my application with you. I have enclosed my resume for your review, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Connelly