

# Piedmont Augusta Foundation

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TCSG Healthcare Roundtable, Athens Technical College

**Laurie Ott,**  
President



*Real change lives here*

# Piedmont Augusta Foundation overview

Piedmont Augusta Foundation was founded in 1978 as the philanthropic arm of what was University Health Care System. University was founded in 1818 as City Hospital and we have a 205 year history of providing health care to the community, regardless of a patient's ability to pay.

In the 1860s an order of nuns known as the Sisters of Mercy provided care. They served in our hospital until 1891, laying the groundwork for a robust nursing training program. The first class of five trained nurses graduated in 1897 and that figure grew to 100 graduates by 1915.

This program would eventually become the University Hospital School of Nursing which graduated thousands of diploma nurses until it closed in 1970 with the advent of more formalized nursing education.



## **Fast Forward to 2020**



**From the 1970s to the 1990s, University Hospital had a surplus of nurses. In fact we had lists of nurses who wanted to be employed by our hospital and not enough spaces because turnover was low.**

**Starting in the 1990s until the pandemic of 2020, we were in a bidding war with the multitude of hospitals in our area (1 state owned, 2 for profits, 3 rehab or specialty hospitals, 2 VA medical centers and 1 Army hospital not to mention the rural hospitals ringing our region).**



“The CoVID-19 Pandemic made very few things better. In fact it magnified an already looming nursing shortage and made it much worse.”

-Every hospital CEO in the country





“No one is coming to rescue us.”

-Laurie Ott (March 2020)



# The only way out is through: looking for options

Starting our own nursing school (again)

Asking someone else to start a nursing school for us or going the for profit route of purchasing a nursing school

Finding a partner ready willing and able to join us on a journey to find a solution.

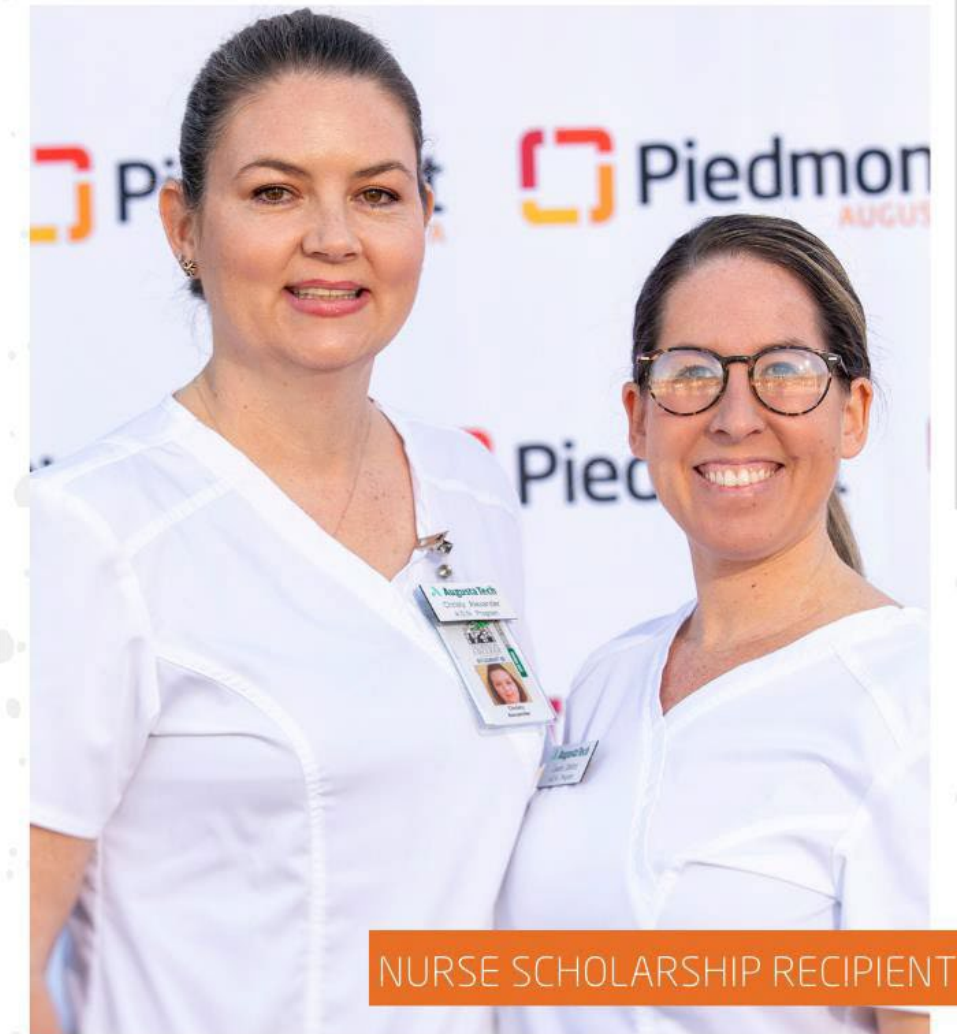
# Augusta Tech College Nursing Scholarships funded entirely by Piedmont Augusta Foundation

- We've given the first 18 nursing scholarships for Associate Degree students
- In return students sign work agreement
- \$1,301,155 raised to date

Make a difference by supporting nursing scholarships through Piedmont Augusta Foundation



Donate Now

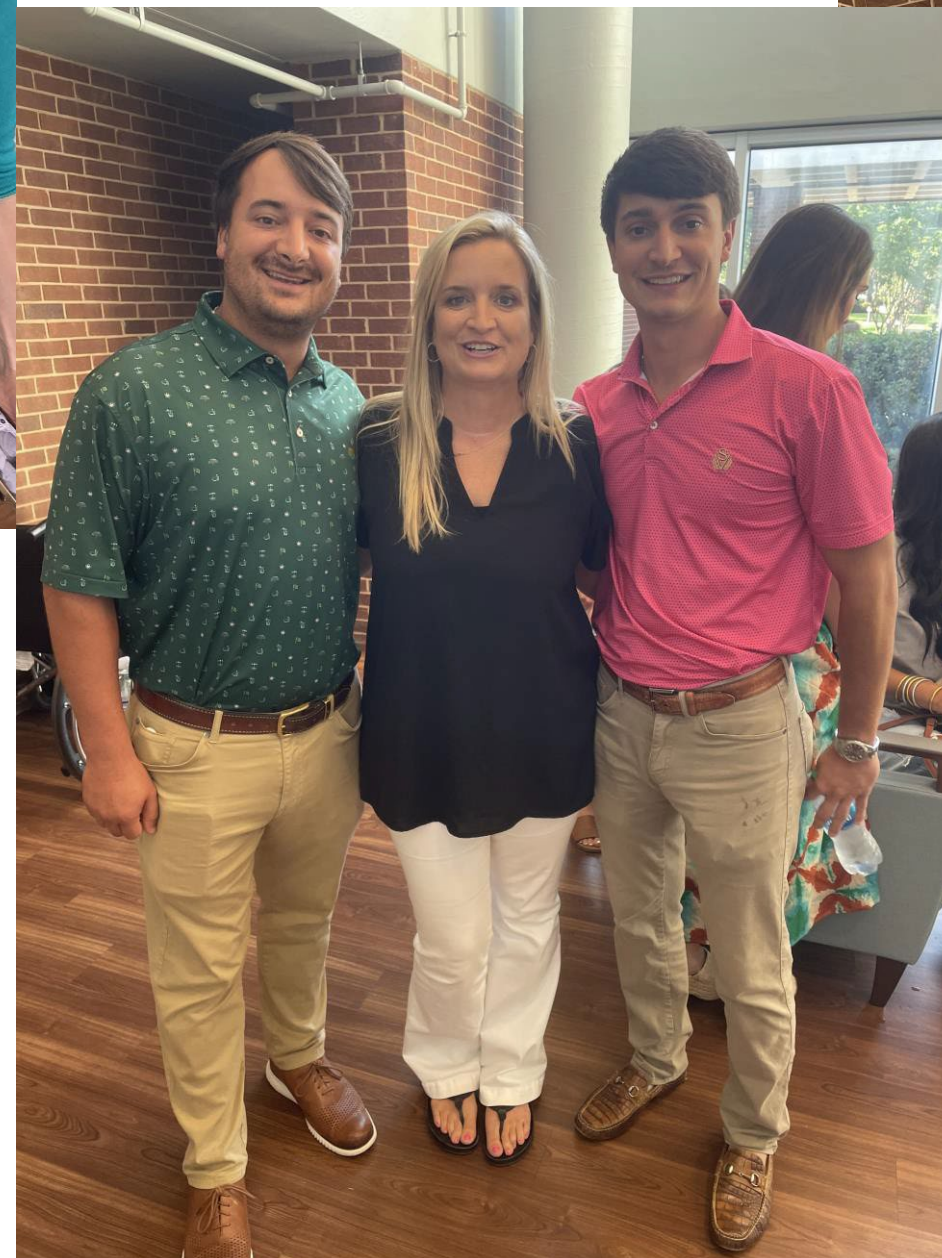


NURSE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

[universityhealth.org/charitable-giving/donate-now/](https://universityhealth.org/charitable-giving/donate-now/)



# Donor appreciation/Scholarship meet & greet





# Healthcare Career Camp





# Success in the future

Continue to innovate

Find new ways to collaborate and not build more silos

Foster communication that brings in stakeholders so the entire community can be part of the solution

Get to know your healthcare neighbors, get to know their challenges and employ servant leadership to “See a need/Meet a need.”

# To make a donation

[Universityhealth.org/charitable-giving/donate-now/](https://universityhealth.org/charitable-giving/donate-now/)



Donate  
Now





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