



Lynn Phillippi, PT (1947-1997)

Lynn Phillippi, PT was a Wisconsin physical therapist who was a passionate advocate for elderly people through her clinical excellence, program development and political activism. She was the editor of GeriNotes, the APTA's Section on Geriatrics newsletter. She also practiced in long-term care environments and was Vice President for Career Development of MJ Care, Inc. She taught student physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, staff and clinicians caring ways of treating elderly people. Politically, she actively campaigned for and supported legislators who worked on legislation that would likely benefit older adults.

In August 1997, Lynn died of cancer. One of her final wishes was that a fund be established to support others who demonstrate a passion for advocating for elderly people as she did. Lynn generously provided a significant amount of money to what is now the Wisconsin Physical Therapy Fund to support projects reflecting the value she held in highest esteem – advocating for the welfare of people who are elderly. To assure that her wishes would be fulfilled the criteria for the Lynn Phillippi Geriatric Advocacy Grant were developed from interviews with Lynn prior to her death and a retrospective review of her writings.

The Lynn Phillippi Geriatric Advocacy Grant Fund is managed by the Wisconsin Physical Therapy Fund. The purpose of the grant is to support projects or programs in clinical, educational, or administrative settings which are exemplary models of advocacy for people who are elderly, i.e., those projects/programs that effectively challenge and change unfavorable perceptions of people who are elderly.

There are five major areas that are fundable under this grant:

Consumer Education

Focus on Frail Elderly

Health Promotion

Professional Education

Volunteerism