

Two receive Valpo PEO education grants

BY TIMES STAFF

VALPARAISO | Valparaiso Chapter J presented Philanthropic Education Organization Program for Continuing Education grants to Marcia Beauchamp and Nicole McLean.

The Program for Continuing Education was established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the United States and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves or families. Beauchamp and McLean received two of only 21 PEO grants presented in Indiana

this year.

Beauchamp, the mother of six children, is a Valparaiso resident. She is pursuing a master's in Professional Counseling from Liberty University and training to become a licensed medical health counselor. Her goal is to provide support and education for families who are facing challenging situations with special needs adopted children.

McLean, of Newton County, holds a certificate in phlebotomy and works at Porter County Medical Group and Franciscan St. Anthony Health in Crown Point. The mother of two,

she is training for a national certificate for medical assistant and plans to earn an associate degree from Allied Health Institute in March 2013.

Since PCE's inception, more than \$32 million in small grants has been awarded to more than 32,000 women. Applicants are recommended and sponsored by PEO chapters.

The PEO Sisterhood, founded Jan. 21, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College, is a philanthropic and educational organization interested in giving women more opportunities for higher education.



Lara Pudwell, PEO Indiana Chapter J chair, presents checks to Nicole McLean and Marcia Beauchamp to fund their continuing studies.