Mark was your favorite patient. During your last encounter, he asked if you would be willing to help him meet his final goal. You asked what the goal was and he said he was still finalizing it. Three weeks after Mark’s death, his attorney gives you the following letter.

*Dear Dr. X,*

*Thank you for all you did for me. Your compassion and moral decision making led me to the conclusion that you are the best person to carry out my final wish. Here it is. I am leaving you in charge of my foundation. The goal of the foundation is to provide one person (and family members, if applicable) with a year to live in a beach house with all living expenses paid, including childcare, medical care, mental health services, family member support services, pet care, anything. This person will receive $500,000 (income taxes paid by foundation) to use however he/she/ze sees fit after the year is completed. Unfortunately, the foundation is very clear that only one person will receive the award and applicants can only apply once. You will have no responsibilities to the foundation other than to submit a rank list to my attorney every year. Sincerely, Mark*

Please decide the rank list from the following candidates. Each candidate agreed to participate if selected.

**Betsy** – age 52; works two full-time jobs at HEB & Walmart to support her teenage sons who are college bound; nominated by her son who is a high school junior who said “My mom is the best person I will ever know. She is my mom and the mom to most of my friends who can’t talk to their moms.”

**Nick** – age 65; Methodist minister who created a homelessness program that helps over 100k people in Austin a year; nominated by a current resident of his shelter who says “I wouldn’t have made it without Nick”

**Julie** – age 26; recently engaged breast cancer survivor; nominated by her oncology nurse for her “willingness to offer support to everyone and she and her wonderful fiancé deserve a year of happiness.”

**Brad** – age 50; recently widowed following his wife’s death in a MVA, now a single father of three (10,8,6); nominated by his sister because “they need to start over & get away from the life they had so he can build a new life for himself and his kids”

**Margaret** – age 32; recently released from prison for a crime she committed as a teenager…while in prison, she completed a college & master’s degree; nominated by her parole officer because “she was a role model to everyone and inspired at least 50 women to learn from their mistakes, obtain an education & make a new start”

**Joe** – age 56; a famous guitarist who injured his hand & can no longer perform, two children & a husband; nominated by his husband who says he is worried about the family’s financial situation with Joe’s loss of income and that Joe will sink into a deep depression because “he has two true loves: His family and his work.”

**Sofia** – age 33; a single mother of a child with Down syndrome and autism who works as an elementary school teacher’s assistant; nominated by a coworker because “she inspires all of us and would benefit from a year to focus on herself and her daughter”

**Sam** – age 65; a recently retired principal who spent 40 years working at inner city high schools known for gang & drug violence; nominated by a group of former students who said “Did you see the movie Lean on Me? That was Mr. Sam. He was the father most of us never got & inspired all of us. We want to give back to him and his wife for all they gave to us.”

**Chris** – age 31; married to his high school sweetheart & father of two daughters (7,4), working two jobs to pay medical bills related to his younger daughter’s chemotherapy. Nominated by daughter’s preschool teacher.

**Taylor** – age 27; male-to-female transgender with a longstanding history of depression related to gender dysphoria. Has been taking hormones for almost a year and wants to have transition surgery but is unable to afford it. Works as a barista and volunteers with transgendered youth. Nominated by her coworker.