



HCCI Recognizes “Heroes in Long Term Care”

During May, as part of National Nursing Home Week, the Health Care Council of Illinois is recognizing the “heroes” of our facilities – those dedicated and caring staff members and residents who have made meaningful contributions to the lives of their facilities. This year, more than 120 individuals are being honored for their commitment, selflessness and caring.

HCCI has sent out certificates of recognition in honor of these heroes. In addition, HCCI is in the process of contacting local media outlets about these awards. We expect to place dozens of positive news stories about these wonderful individuals.

HCCI extends its congratulations to the 2009 Heroes in Long Term Care. Here is the list of this year’s honorees divided into categories:

Activities

Phyllis Gilmore, Bryn Mawr Care, Chicago
Linda Kieffer, Crystal Pines Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Crystal Lake
Bobbie Light, Douglas Rehabilitation and Care Center, Mattoon
Rita Madrigal, Palos Hills Extended Care, Palos Hills
Suzie Offill, Gilman Healthcare, Gilman
Cheryl Zimmerman, Mason City Area Nursing Home, Mason City

Administrators

Dr. Michael Gottesman, Alden Estates of Skokie, Skokie
Colleen Rodney, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston

Admissions

Gina Calalay, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Joel Crabtree, Hillcrest Nursing Center, Round Lake Beach
Pearl Hill, Sheridan Shores Care and Rehabilitation Center, Chicago

Jennifer Schierer, Westmont Nursing and Rehabilitation, Westmont

Business/Office Management

Jessica Aponte, Alden Courts of Waterford, Aurora
Denise Christenson, Fair Oaks Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, South Beloit
Mary Hrycko, Alden Poplar Creek, Hoffman Estates
Lora Fish, Flanagan Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Flanagan
Shameka Tate, Alden Trails, Bloomingdale

Certified Nursing Assistants/Nursing and Restorative Aides/CNA Team Leaders

Andrew Andrada, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Susan Bainer, Alden Poplar Creek, Hoffman Estates
Lynn Cox, White Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, White Hall
Steven Cohen, Crestwood Care Centre, Crestwood
Reeda Daily, Flanagan Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, Flanagan
Lourdes DeGuzman, Abbingtion Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Roselle
Rosita Drapiza, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Elizabeth Fletcher Duran, Ballard Healthcare, Des Plaines
April Graham, Alden of Old Town West, Bloomingdale
Martha Hernandez, Alden Town Manor, Cicero
Phyllis Higginbotham, Casey Health Care Center, Casey
Hannah Inusah, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Bessie Jones, Hickory Nursing Pavilion, Hickory Hills
Jennifer Kakooza, Alden Terrace of McHenry, McHenry
Debbie Knott, Barton W. Stone, Jacksonville
Paula Kraft, Stephenson Nursing Center, Freeport
Mandy Pershing, Riverview Healthcare, East Peoria
Sarah Poellnitz, Concord Extended Care, Oak Lawn
Natasha Reardon, Fairview Care Center of Joliet, Joliet
Maria Reino, Alden Courts of Des Plaines, Des Plaines
Linda Rissman, Sandwich Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Sandwich
Maria Rodriguez, Alden Poplar Creek, Hoffman Estates
Jose Sandoval, International Nursing and Rehabilitation, Chicago
Cora Smith, Meadowbrook Manor, Bolingbrook
Carolyn Soling, Plaza Nursing and Rehab, Midlothian
Alfonso Valencia, Alden Springs, Bloomingdale
Rhonda Williams, Alden Village North, Chicago
Glenda Winters, Countryside Care Centre, Aurora
Mary Zolicoffer, Snow Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Lisle

Community Relations

Sloane Milewski, Aledo Rehabilitation and Healthcare, Aledo

Dietary/Food Services

Edward Arguelles, Alden Courts of Waterford, Aurora
Sarah Brinkmeyer, Northwoods Care Centre, Belvidere
Miroslawa Dziekonski, Alden North Shore, Skokie
Juetta Henderson, Alden of Old Town East, Bloomingdale
Pam Jackson, Evergreen Nursing Center, Effingham
Maria Kakates, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Martha Moore, Alden Alma Nelson, Rockford
Kerrian Witter, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston

Director of Nursing/Nursing Administration/Management

Richelle Hofilena, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Jerlene Jamison, Bella Vista Care Center, Peoria Heights
Jody Kinkin, Flanagan Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Flanagan
Jewell Prater, Oakview Heights Continued Care and Rehabilitation, Mount Carmel
Rose Suplemento, Alden Estates of Skokie, Skokie
Joan Vitacco, Lemont Nursing and Rehabilitation, Lemont

Health Information Coordinators

Sharon Brazil, Prairie Manor, Chicago Heights
Helga Wostl, Children's Habilitation Center, Harvey

Laundry/Maintenance/Housekeeping/Environmental Services

Frank Amarillo, Alden Des Plaines, Des Plaines
Jose Bello, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Robert Brown, Mid-America Care Center, Chicago
Geno Forneris, Collinsville Rehabilitation and Health Care, Collinsville
Christopher Frantazier, Briar Place, Indian Head Park
Jaime Guzman, Alden Village, Bloomingdale
Thelma Webster Johnson, Alden Princeton, Chicago
Lucinda Jones, Alden Princeton, Chicago
Tiffany Mason, Douglas Rehabilitation and Care Center, Mattoon
Herman McDaniels, Heather Healthcare, Harvey
Reginald McFray, Alden Princeton, Chicago
Janina Nowak, Elmwood Care, Elmwood Park

Lucy Wiszowata, Lakeview Nursing and Rehabilitation Centre, Chicago

Medical Directors

Dr. Luis DeVenecia, Richland Memorial Hospital-Long Term Care, Olney

Nurses

Becky Hackett, Fairview Care Center of Joliet, Joliet
Darla Hess, Twin Lakes Rehabilitation and Healthcare, Paris
Victoria Howell, Alden Courts of Waterford, Aurora
Patricia Jentzen, Alden of Orland Park, Orland Park
Evangeline Lardizabal, Brightview Care Center, Chicago
Vanessa Louchios, Alden Courts of Waterford, Aurora
Reynaldo Magsino, Alden Estates of Evanston, Evanston
Glenda Montinola, Alden Northmoor, Chicago
Melissa Richerson, OSF St. Clare, Peoria Heights
Alicia Roman, Center Home for Hispanic Elderly, Chicago
Janet Stephens, Countryside Care Centre, Aurora
Lisa Taylor, Havana Health Care Center, Havana

Psych/Social and Resident Services

Sister Lucille Adelman, Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet
Mary Beasley, Mayfield Care Center, Chicago
Brenda Grant, Sheridan Healthcare Center, Zion
Esther Heaton, The Elms, Macomb
Javita Hooks, Collinsville Rehab and Health Care, Collinsville
Diane Lee, Sheridan Healthcare Center, Zion
Andre Matlock, Grasmere Place LLC, Chicago
Judy Taylor, Helia Healthcare of Energy, Energy
Erin Travis, The Grove of LaGrange Park, La Grange Park
Lisann Williams, Peterson Park Health Care Center, Chicago

Residents

Robert Alcaraz, Alden Lincoln Park Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Chicago
Vicky Bell, Alden Princeton, Chicago
Roger Caldwell, Atrium Health Care and Rehab, Cahokia
Loren Ellis, Doctors Nursing and Rehabilitation, Salem
Aviva Hagari, The Grove North Living and Rehab, Skokie
Dennis Halsey, Alden Estates of Skokie, Skokie

Bob Irwin, Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet
Richard Mejia, Fairview Care Center of Joliet, Joliet
Alice Mintz, Arbour Health Care Center, Chicago
Miriam "Mimi" Neff, Aviston Countryside Manor, Aviston
"Bucky" Charles Rutz, Carlyle Healthcare Center, Carlyle
Ronald Snyder, Palos Hill Extended Care, Palos Hills
Yvonne Stowers, Alden Valley Ridge, Bloomingdale
Marcella Swanson, Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County, Joliet
Willie Townsend, Alden Princeton, Chicago

Therapy

Vickie Campbell, Vandalia Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, Vandalia
Clara Upshaw, Children's Habilitation Center, Harvey

Volunteers

Annette Black, Springfield Terrace, Springfield
Ethel Carlson, Marigold Rehab & Health Care, Galesburg
Jill Madden, Hammond Henry Hospital, Geneseo
Pastor Randall Pate, Sycamore Healthcare Centre, Quincy

The Health Care Council of Illinois is proud to honor these outstanding individuals through the "Heroes in Long Term Care" program.

"These people are shining examples of the heroes who live and work in long term care facilities throughout Illinois," said Pat Comstock, executive director of the Health Care Council of Illinois. "They demonstrate every day a level of commitment and caring that is unsurpassed."