



HCCI Recognizes “Heroes in Long Term Care”

During May, as part of National Nursing Home Week, the Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI) 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 2010 Heroes in Long Term Care. Here is the list of this year’s honorees divided into categories:

Activities

- Natalie Buckingham, Alden Group Homes
- Raquel Delgado, International Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Carol Evans, Willow Crest Nursing Pavilion
- Sandy Jordan, St. Anthony’s Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Miranda Leonard, Gibson Area Hospital Long Term Care
- Eleanor McNutt, Vandalia Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
- Diana Powell, Cahokia Nursing and Rehabilitation
- Cindy Spry, Knox County Nursing Home
- Aida Talavera, Center Home for the Hispanic Elderly
- Lauren Weibel, Alden Courts of Waterford

Administrators

- Barb Lowry, Litchfield Terrace
- Alice Oshinski, Peterson Park Health Care Center
- Lisa Orzada, Palos Hills Extended Care
- Leslie Pedtke, Aviston Countryside Manor

Admissions

- Jennifer Delgado, International Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Business/Human Resources/Office Management

- Gaby Bock, Boulevard Healthcare/Evergreen Healthcare Center/Warren Barr Pavilion
- John Malkiewicz, Alden Long Grove Rehab and Health Care Center
- Magaly Michel, Alden Village Health Facility for Children/Young Adults
- Maria Pamatmat, Arbour Health Care
- Denise Walker, Fondulac Rehabilitation & Health Care Center

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

- Nancy Bunday, Alden Terrace of McHenry Rehab and Health Care
- Sylvia Burrage, St. Anthony's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Rosemary Cecola, Hillcrest Nursing Center
- Leelama Georgekutty, GlenBridge Nursing & Rehabilitation
- Nakia Gould, Plaza Nursing & Rehab
- May Murayama, Alden Gardens of Des Plaines
- Luann Payne, Eastside Health and Rehabilitation Center
- Charlene Relerford, Alden Lakeland Rehab and Health Care Center
- Adrienne Shaw, South Shore Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Stephanie Shindley, Heritage Manor-Chillicothe
- Carol Stewart, Rochelle Gardens Care Center
- Victoria Vaughn, Collinsville Rehab and Health Care Center
- Jorge Vazquez, Alden Springs

Concierges

- Eneida Polanco, Whitehall of Deerfield

Dementia Care Unit Directors

- Mila Del Rosario, Alden Estates of Naperville

Dietary/Food Services

- Ismael Campos, Alden Courts of Waterford
- Pearl Carlson, Orchard View Rehabilitation & Health Care
- Garfield S. Driver, International Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Sofia Metovic, The Selfhelp Home

- Mona Spero, Tower Hill Healthcare Center
- Mark Williams, Fairview Care Center of Joliet

Director of Nursing/Nursing Administration/Management

- Priscilla Chapman, Sheridan Shores Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Carol Langley, Illinois Knights Templar Home
- Teri Meyer, Crestwood Care Centre
- Julie Naliwajko, Heather Healthcare
- Romina Narcisa, Alden Des Plaines Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
- Lillian Olszewski, Holy Family Villa
- Monette Saccameno, Alden Village North Health Facility for Children and Young Adults
- Sandy Tipsword, Heartland Manor Inc. Nursing Center

Family Members

- John Vallejo, St. Anthony's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

House Managers

- Kris Walski, Alden of Old Town East

Inventory Management

- Ann McCarthy, Winning Wheels

Laundry/Maintenance/Housekeeping/Environmental Services

- Joyce Azeez, Alden Estates of Skokie
- Stephanie Baffo, Sheridan Healthcare Center
- Aron Compton, Heritage Manor-Streator
- Connie K. Deisher, Oakview Heights Continuing Care and Rehab Center
- Richard Gollhuir, Helia Healthcare of Energy
- Terry Hall, Scott County Nursing Center
- Jean Hardin, Rosiclare Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
- Karrie Harris, ARC of Jacksonville, Ltd.
- Ramon Martinez, Elmwood Care
- Lucy Obermeier, Collinsville Rehab and Health Care Center
- Patricia "Tish" Powell, The Elms
- Jose Perez, Alden Trails/Alden Springs
- Arturo Rodriguez, International Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Ruth Shupe, North Adams Home
- Linda Smith, Carrier Mills Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Nurses

- Cathy Augle, Alden Orland Park Rehab and Health Care Center
- Latecia Barnes, Alden Town Manor Rehab and Health Care Center
- Dufie Boakye, Alden Lincoln Park Rehab and Health Care Center
- Marsha Boll, Stephenson Nursing Center
- Christian Chavet, Alden Estates of Evanston
- Mae Henson, Snow Valley Center
- Melanie Herrod-Shaffer, Concord Nursing & Rehab
- Emily Holzman, Brightview Care Center
- Cedric Ivey, International Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Mary Beth Kirby, Heritage Manor of Colfax
- Natalia Luskin, Alden Courts of Des Plaines
- Sue Rios, Countryside Care Centre
- Mary Ann Ruffin, Renaissance at South Shore
- Randa Samek, Flanagan Rehabilitation and Health Care Center

Owners

- Eli Pick, Ballard Rehabilitation

Psych/Social and Resident Services

- Marti Blank, Asta Care Center of Elgin
- Deborah Hull, St. Vincent's Home
- Debbie James, Mt. Vernon Health Care Center
- Maggie Kueking, The Arbor of Itasca
- Rosalie Mensinga, Westmont Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Georgia Williams, Golden Moments Senior Center

Receptionists

- Lorraine Danielson, Alden Courts of Waterford

Residents

- Robert Bailey, Robings Manor Rehabilitation and Health Care
- Dorothy Block, Palos Hills Extended Care
- Diane Brozman, Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County
- Alvin Carpenter, Rosewood Care Center
- Suzanne Cunningham, Alden Alma Nelson
- Colleen Deemo, Alden Valley Ridge
- Daniel Gonder, Bloomington Rehabilitation and Health Care Center

- Ruby Greer, Mayfield Care Center
- Jayne Hail, Burgess Square Healthcare and Rehab Centre
- Everett Hawkins, Doctors Nursing & Rehabilitation
- Eileen Loya, Monmouth Nursing Home
- Christine Mendelewski, Westmont Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Brian Messman, South Elgin Rehabilitation and Health Care Center
- James Laurence Meissen, Neighbors Rehabilitation Center
- Roy Perry, Twin Lakes Rehab and Health Care
- Annabelle Rathbun, Alden Gardens of Waterford
- Robert Saucier, Palm Terrace of Mattoon
- Wil Schmitt, Manor Court of Peru
- Josephine Sellett, Douglas Rehabilitation and Care Center
- Shirley Walden, Robings Manor Rehabilitation and Health Care
- Leona Weiss, Heritage Manor-Staunton
- Mildred Whitt, Heartland Health Care Center of Champaign

Staff Initiatives

- Haiti Assistance Project, Staff at St. Anthony's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Special Olympics, Staff at Alden Group Homes

Therapy and Rehabilitation

- JoAnne Leckrone, Capitol Care Center

Transportation

- Russell McCrea, Albany Care Inc.

Volunteers

- Rusty Ballard, Mason City Area Nursing Home
- Ella Bischoff, Evergreen Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Linda Bolls, Royal Oaks Care Center
- Judy Patch, St. Anthony's Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Sandra Robinson, Hallmark House Nursing Center
- Betty White, Rochelle Gardens Care Center
- Ralph White, Rochelle Gardens Care Center

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

"These people truly represent the heart and soul of Illinois' long term care facilities. They are committed to optimizing the health, outlook and well being of the residents we serve," said Pat Comstock, executive director of the Health Care Council of Illinois.