

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 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, Abbington 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
- Mirosława 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

Nurses Continued...

- 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.”