



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Susan O'Brien
(410) 290-5132 ext. 102
(443) 254-6000
sobrien@hfam.org

Maryland's Largest Long-Term Care Provider Association Honors Employees & Volunteers with Annual Awards

Columbia, Maryland – The Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM) honored the individuals below for outstanding achievement as part of its 18th Annual Employee & Volunteer Recognition Luncheon event last week.

Helen Beck, a nurse at the Genesis Healthcare Spa Creek Center in Annapolis, received special recognition as the luncheon guest who had served the longest career with 52 years of service. She was also honored as nurse caregiver of the year. More than 370 long-term care professionals attended at the Turf Valley Conference Center in Ellicott City.

Photos of each award winner are available.

EMPLOYEES

Administrative Support: Barbara W. Cherry, Genesis HealthCare - Corsica Hills Center in Centreville. Barbara was honored not only for her exceptional administration skills and dependability, but her eagerness to contribute to all areas of the facility and volunteer for post-work activities.

Ancillary Services: Rita Stokes Price, FutureCare Charles Village in Baltimore – Rita was honored for achieving multiple promotions over the years because of her dedication, eagerness to learn new skills and exemplary interaction with fellow staff and residents.

Dietary: Susan Overbay, Forest Hill Health and Rehabilitation Center in Forest Hill, Harford County – Previously a food service aide for Harford County schools, Susan was honored for her passion for creating the best meals possible for residents that are not only delicious but meet the dietary and medical needs of a skilled nursing facility population. She ascended from a dining room aide, to cook, and is now training to become a food service director.

Department Head: Denise Pearson, Genesis HealthCare - Severna Park Center, Anne Arundel County – Denise was honored for going above and beyond to accommodate the needs of families transitioning loved ones into a skilled nursing facility, as well as for volunteering after hours to help raise funds for resident activities.

Environmental/Maintenance: Kathy Disbrow, Forest Hill Health and Rehabilitation Center – A 20-year plus housekeeper for Forest Hill, Kathy was honored for her creativity, energy and spirit that engages residents and makes a difference in their daily lives.

Nursing Caregiver: Helen Beck, Genesis HealthCare - Spa Creek Center in Annapolis – An 18-year employee of Spa Creek who has been a nurse care giver for more than 50 years, Helen was honored for outstanding customer service and exceptional caregiving.

Licensed Nurse: Amanda Llovet, Genesis HealthCare – Spa Creek Center – A 17-year employee of Spa Creek, Amanda was honored for her excellent time management and supervision and mentoring of nursing staff.

VOLUNTEERS

Adult: Kelly Melchoir, Genesis HealthCare - Perring Parkway Center in Baltimore – A former resident of Genesis Perring Parkway, Kelly was honored for her energy and dedication, as well as for her extraordinary efforts to return to the center, after returning to her home ,to volunteer for her former fellow residents. Kelly accompanies patients to hair appointments and assists with religious and recreational services.

Group: Timonium Optimists, Genesis HealthCare Cromwell Center in Towson – The Timonium Optimists were honored for the ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of the residents of Genesis Cromwell. With humor and compassion, the volunteers coordinate games and help celebrate holidays – including giving a Valentine to each resident every February 14.

Young Adult: Erin Beach, FutureCare Cherrywood in Baltimore – Bringing music to their ears, Erin volunteers once a month to play her clarinet during residents’ lunch hour at FutureCare Cherrywood. More than just background music, the residents can be found singing or tapping along to her music while enjoying their meals.

Resident: Irene Cleveland, Stella Maris in Timonium – A Stella Maris resident herself, Irene was honored for her commitment to her fellow residents. As a pastoral care volunteer, she spends time with residents and their families as part of Stella’s Hospice program. Irene has volunteered more than 1,550 hours since 1999.

For more information and photos, please call Susan O’Brien at 410-290-5132, ext. 102, by cell at 443-254-6000, or email sobrien@hfam.org.

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Health Facilities Association of Maryland is a voluntary provider community association, chartered in 1948 as the Maryland Nursing Home Association. It is the oldest and largest long-term care association representing skilled nursing, sub-acute facilities, and assisted living programs in Maryland. HFAM has 150 member organizations, including non-profits, serving more than 19,000 Maryland consumers in need of long-term care. HFAM member organizations employ more than 18,000 people in Maryland. For more information, visit www.hfam.org.