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## MELISSA CULVER RECEIVES EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

ALBANY, N.Y. – Melissa Culver, activities aide at Golden Hill Nursing and Rehab Center in Kingston, NY, has received the 2018 Heart and Hands Award from the New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL). The award will be presented on June 26 at the 2018 Employee Recognition Awards program during the association's annual conference in Rye Brook, NY.

Melissa Culver works as a recreation leader in the activities department at Golden Hill Nursing & Rehab Center, and spends the majority of her time working on their secure dementia floor. She is a Certified Dementia Practitioner and is one of the driving forces of their QAPI Performance Improvement Project, focusing on improving the quality of care for their residents with dementia.

"Melissa actively pursues recreational outlets to engage the residents from a sensory and intellectual level. She uses her creativity and artistic ability daily to make a difference in the lives of our residents," said Michael Zyskind, administrator of Golden Hill Nursing and Rehab Center. "We are proud that she has been honored with this prestigious award from NYSHFA."

The Employee Recognition Awards honor individuals for their outstanding contributions to skilled nursing facilities. They are awarded in the categories of Registered Nurse of the Year, Licensed Practical Nurse of the Year, Certified Nursing Assistant of the Year and Heart and Hands Award, which is presented to a non-nursing/non-managerial staff member.

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The New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL) is a member-driven association of providers of long term care services, caring for individuals of all ages in proprietary, not-for-profit, and government-sponsored skilled nursing, post-acute, rehab, adult care and assisted living communities across the state of New York. NYSHFA/NYSCAL is dedicated to assisting its members in achieving excellence in the provision of efficient and effective quality long term care services through leadership, professional development and active involvement in the shaping of public policy.