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**18 NURSES COMPLETE NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Exclusive Program Trains Rising Leaders in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

(ALBANY, N.Y.) – Eighteen nurses from western New York area nursing facilities have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s Director of Nursing Leadership Program, an exclusive program for nurses in senior management roles who aspire to become or remain leaders in the long-term care profession.

The Director of Nursing Leadership Program is part of the Long Term Care Leadership Institute, which was developed by the Foundation for Quality Care, a non-profit research and educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association. The innovative program, assisted by funds from the New York State Department of Health and Labor - Health Workforce Retraining Initiative, provides college-level credits through the State University of New York Institute of Technology’s (SUNYIT) School of Nursing and Health Systems in Utica.

“No one is more important to the delivery of quality care than nurses and nurse leaders. We need to do everything we can to support them,” said Stephen B. Hanse, Esq., President of the New York State Health Facilities Association and the Foundation for Quality Care. “Programs such as these are critical to the long-term success of skilled nursing facilities in New York State.”

The Long Term Care Leadership Program was designed to provide nursing leaders with an ongoing educational and peer networking program that promotes personal development, core competencies and best practices in the role of long-term care nursing.

“The Institute is even more critical in these times of staffing shortages and increased quality of care and financial pressures in the long-term care profession,” said Nancy Leveille, Executive Director of the Foundation for Quality Care. “This program trains the current and most importantly, the next generation of nurse leaders who care for New York’s most frail populations.”

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The 18 participants who have completed the Director of Nursing Leadership Program are:

Angela Bennett, Director of Nursing, Demay Living Center, **Newark**
Jan Considine, Director of Nursing, Fairport Baptist Home, **Fairport**
Kathy Crye, Director of Nursing, Livingston County CNR, **Mt. Morris**
LyLy Delles, Director of Nursing, Episcopal Senior Life Communities, **Rochester**
Amber Ezzo, Director of Nursing, Weinberg Campus, **Getzville**
Dawn Friend, Director of Nursing, Schofield Residence, **Kenmore**
Theresa Hart, Director of Nursing, Clifton Springs Nursing Home, **Clifton Springs**
Lynne Kelsey, Director of Nursing, The Living Center at Highlands at Pittsford, **Pittsford**
Kristina Kotvis, Asst. Director of Nursing, Hill Haven - Rochester Regional Health, **Webster**
Virginia Luke, Director of Nursing, Absolut Care of Gasport, **Gasport**
Lauri Morton, Director of Nursing, Aaron Manor Rehab & Continuing Care Center, **Fairport**
Rene Mount, Director of Nursing, Elderwood at Cheektowaga, **Cheektowaga**
Edward Perry, Director of Nursing, Lakeside Health Systems, **Brockport**
Janel Salva, Asst. Director of Nursing, Edna Tina Wilson Living Center, **Rochester**
Dawn Serwacki, Director of Nursing, Elderwood at Wheatfield, **Niagara Falls**
Colleen Spooner, Director of Nursing, Latta Road Nursing Home East, **Rochester**
Jennifer Trigilio, Director of Nursing, LeRoy Village Green RHCF, **LeRoy**
Deanna Viccica, Director of Nursing, Elderwood at Grand Island, **Grand Island**

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The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL), a statewide membership organization of more than 340 licensed skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership is diversified and represents individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. Members take care of more than 54,000 ill, aged and infirm New Yorkers. Members of NYSHFA/NYSCAL are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of all residents.