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## ESCAMILLA RECEIVES EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

ALBANY, N.Y. – Mary Escamilla, a certified nursing assistant at Bridgewater Center For Rehab and Nursing in Binghamton, NY, has received the 2017 Certified Nursing Assistant of the Year Award from the New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL). The award was presented on June 27 at the 2017 Employee Recognition Awards program during the association's annual convention in Verona, NY.

Ms. Escamilla has been employed as a certified nursing assistant at Bridgewater Center For Rehab and Nursing for over 26 years. She started her career in the facility's long term care unit and currently works in the rehabilitation unit due to her outgong personality and ability to motivate residents towards discharge home. Mary has received several employee excellence awards and in 2016 was named Bridgwater Center's Employee of the Year. Prior to coming to Bridgewater Center, she served in the United States Air Force.

"Mary's compassion, consistency and devotion to the residents she cares for is extraordinary," said Kurt Apthorpe, administrator of Bridgewater Center For Rehab and Nursing. "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.