

For Immediate Release  
June 29, 2017

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**MELANDER RECEIVES EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD**

ALBANY, N.Y. – Carol Melander, LPN, unit manager at Saratoga Center Rehab & Skilled Nursing Care in Ballston Spa, NY, has received the 2017 Licensed Practical Nurse 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. Melander began working at Saratoga Center Rehab & Skilled Nursing Care in 2015. She worked as a medication nurse and then a charge nurse. In 2016 she was promoted to Unit Manager of the facility’s 40 bed dementia unit. Carol is a single mother of three who chose to become an LPN after her children had grown up. She graduated at the top of her class and has spent her nursing career in long term care.

“Carol embodies the meaning of caregiver. She is caring, compassionate and has reinvented the way we care for residents with Dementia and Alzheimer’s,” said Rose McGauley, assistant administrator of Saratoga Nursing 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.*