

For Immediate Release  
June 28, 2018

Contact: Richard S. Patterson  
(518) 462-4800 Ext. 19

**AZRA STRACUZZI RECEIVES ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

ALBANY, N.Y. – Azra Stracuzzi, Administrator of The Pines at Heartwood in Troy, NY has received the 2018 Administrator of the Year Award from the New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL). The award was presented on June 26 at the 2018 NYSCAL Awards Banquet during the Association’s annual conference in Rye, NY.

Azra Stracuzzi, RN, has been employed by National HealthCare Associates for 10 years, and has been the Administrator at The Pines at Heartwood for 3 years. She is a caring, compassionate individual who serves her residents with the utmost respect on a daily basis. Azra is an excellent teacher and encourages all staff to continue learning and educating themselves so that all goals may be achieved. She has sent personal care aides to classes at the facility’s expense so they may obtain their Home Health Aide certificate. She goes out of her way to make time for families and residents at any time of the day or night. She strives to reach perfection in her building and encourages all of her staff to do the same.

“Azra is a fierce advocate for adult care/assisted living population and her integrity, high standards and dedication are second to none,” said Nicole Prudhomme, Director of Nursing at The Pines at Heartwood. “We are proud that she has been honored with this prestigious award from NYSCAL.”

The NYSCAL Administrator of the Year Award recognizes an adult care/assisted living administrator who demonstrates outstanding innovation, achievement, and capabilities in their provision of high quality person-centered care in a service-oriented culture in an adult care/assisted living community.

Winners received an engraved obelisk and were invited to attend the NYSHFA/NYSCAL annual conference.

-30-

*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.*