



For Immediate Release
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Association Announces 2016 Bronze National Quality Award Recipients *Centers recognized for commitment to quality care*

(Albany, NY) – The New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL) announces that six member long term and post-acute care providers from across New York state were recognized with a 2016 *Bronze - Commitment to Quality Award* by the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL). The award is the first of three distinctions possible through the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program, which honors long term and post-acute care centers that have demonstrated their commitment to improving quality care for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

“A commitment to always improve the quality of care and quality of life for the residents and families we serve is what this award represents,” said AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Board of Overseers Chair Christine Boldt. “This year’s recipients have demonstrated that commitment. I commend all of them for their hard work and dedication.”

Implemented by AHCA/NCAL in 1996, the National Quality Award Program is centered on the core values and criteria of the *Baldrige Performance Excellence Program*, which is the foundation of the metric-based AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative. The program assists providers of long term and post-acute care services in achieving their performance goals.

The program has three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Providers begin the quality improvement process at the Bronze level, where they develop an organizational profile with fundamental performance elements such as vision and mission statements and an assessment of customers’ expectations. Bronze applicants must also demonstrate their ability to implement a performance improvement system. Trained Examiners review each application to determine if the center has met the demands of the criteria. Recipients may now move forward in developing approaches and achieving performance levels that meet the criteria required for the *Silver - Achievement in Quality Award*.

The New York state recipients are:

Bridgewater Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing, Binghamton
Highland Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Middletown
Schofield Residence, Kenmore
Sunrise Senior Living of North Lynbrook, Lynbrook
Sunrise Senior Living of West Babylon, West Babylon
Wingate at Ulster, Highland

The Association will announce the 2016 *Silver - Achievement in Quality* and *Gold – Excellence in Quality Award* recipients in the coming months. The National Quality Award Program is sponsored by AHCA/NCAL Associate Business Members: My InnerView, National Research Corporation; PointRight; Team TSI Corporation; and First Quality. The awards will be presented during AHCA/NCAL's 67th Annual Convention and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee, October 16-19, 2016.

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ABOUT NYSHFA/NYSCAL

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.

ABOUT AHCA/NCAL

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represent more than 13,000 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit www.ahca.org or www.ncal.org.