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LOCAL PET THERAPY GROUP RECEIVES VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

ALBANY, N.Y. – Lois Gillman and Ginny Statelman have received the 2016 Group Volunteer of the Year Award for their volunteer service at Queens Boulevard Extended Care Facility in Woodside, NY. The award from the New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL) was presented on June 28 at the 2016 Volunteer of the Year Awards program during the association's annual convention in Bolton Landing, NY.

Lois and Ginny bring their pet therapy dogs to Queens Boulevard Extended Care Facility twice a week to visit with the residents. These special volunteers make a difference as they provide a holistic therapeutic intervention for each resident they come in contact with. They contribute immeasurably to the mental, social, and emotional well-being of the residents in the facility.

"Lois and Ginny's commitment and dedication to our residents is greatly appreciated," said Dr. Jonathan Mawere, Administrator and COO of Queens Boulevard Extended Care Facility. "Their volunteerism is truly exemplary and deserving of this prestigious award from NYSHFA/NYSCAL."

NYSHFA/NYSCAL's Volunteer of the Year Awards Program recognizes outstanding volunteers serving in skilled nursing facilities. Winners receive an engraved obelisk and were invited to attend the NYSHFA/NYSCAL annual convention.

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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.