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Association Announces 2015 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 20 member long term and post-acute care providers from across New York state were recognized with a 2015 *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.

"It's gratifying to see these providers recognized for their commitment to improving quality care," said AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Board of Overseers Chair Christine Boldt. "At this level, Bronze recipients are positioned to achieve even better health and organizational outcomes. I applaud and encourage this year's recipients to continue their quality journeys."

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*. The program assists providers of long term and post-acute care services in achieving their performance excellence goals.

The program has three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Centers 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 Bronze application to determine if the center has met the demands of the criteria. Centers 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:

Mohawk Valley Health Care Center, Ilion Bronx Center for Rehabilitation and Health Care, Bronx Kingsway Manor Assisted Living, Schenectady Heathwood Assisted Living at Williamsville, Williamsville Kings Harbor Multicare Center, Bronx Shore View Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Brooklyn Mills Pond Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, St. James

Sunrise Senior Living of Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn

The Brightonian, Rochester

Sunrise Senior Living of Dix Hills

Sunrise Senior Living of East Setauket

Sunrise Senior Living of Plainview

Sunrise Senior Living of New City

Sunrise Senior Living of Holbrook

Sunrise Senior Living of East Meadow

Sunrise Senior Living of Crestwood, Yonkers

Essex Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare, Elizabethtown

Sunrise Senior Living of Staten Island

Sunrise Senior Living of Smithtown

Sunrise Senior Living of Mill Basin, Brooklyn

AHCA/NCAL will announce the 2015 *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, by National Research Corporation and PointRight. My InnerView represents the true voice of nursing home and assisted living residents, families, and employees with the most insightful quality measurement solutions and satisfaction surveys in the healthcare continuum. PointRight is the recognized leader in data-driven analytics for health care and insurance. The recipient centers will be honored during the AHCA/NCAL's 66th Annual Convention and Exposition, October 4-7, 2015, in San Antonio, Texas.

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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 12,000 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.