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PIEDRA RECEIVES EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

ALBANY, N.Y. – Frances Piedra, RN, Vent Unit Manager at Wingate at Ulster in Highland, NY has received the 2015 Registered 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 30 at the 2015 Employee Recognition Awards program during the association's annual convention in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Ms. Piedra has been employed at Wingate at Ulster for 15 years. She is currently a nurse manager that leads a 21-bed vent unit which has had much success. She started out as a receptionist at the facility. She became interested in resident care and obtained her CNA certificate. She continued her education and completed her LPN and RN degrees while working full time at Wingate.

"Frances uses her knowledge and skills to positively affect our resident's quality of life," said Maura Brennan, administrator of Wingate at Ulster. "We are proud that she has been honored with this prestigious award from NYSHFA."

Wingate at Ulster is a 120-bed, skilled nursing facility nestled in the historic Hudson River Valley, just south of the Mid-Hudson Bridge. Wingate at Ulster's knowledgeable and compassionate staff provides short-term rehab and long-term care customized to fit each individual's needs, with specialized programs for Ventilator Care and Pulmonary Rehabilitation. Proudly serving the Highland community for over 15 years, Wingate at Ulster delivers quality care patients can trust.

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.