

For Immediate Release
July 1, 2015

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

SOMERSET GARDENS RECEIVES INNOVATIVE PRACTICE AWARD

ALBANY, N.Y. – Somerset Gardens in Plainview, N.Y. has received the 2015 Innovative Practice Award for its program, “Preventing Unnecessary Hospitalizations”. The award from the New York State Health Facilities Association/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSHFA/NYSCAL) was presented on June 30 at the 2015 Innovative Practice Awards program during the association’s annual convention in Saratoga Springs, NY.

This assisted living community has successfully implemented the INTERACT “Stop and Watch” communication tool as a proactive approach to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations. The tool allows all of the facility staff to provide timely feedback on resident change of condition and/or behaviors to reduce negative outcomes. Several interventions were also introduced to decrease rehospitalizations such as hospice, physician round table, voiding schedules, balance and exercise programs, resident care meetings and hydration programs.

“The facility has reduced its rehospitalization rate significantly,” said Paul Wasser, Executive Director of Somerset Gardens. “We are proud to be recognized with this prestigious award from NYSHFA for this successful program.”

The Innovative Practice Awards were initiated to demonstrate the New York State Health Facilities Association’s commitment to showcasing the high quality services its members provide to their residents.

Winners of the Innovative Practice Awards received a plaque and presented their programs during an educational session at NYSHFA’s annual convention.

-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.