



For Immediate Release
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**21 NURSES COMPLETE ADVANCED NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Exclusive Program Trains Rising Leaders in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

(ALBANY, N.Y.) – Twenty-one nurses from New York City and Long Island area nursing facilities have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s Advanced Director of Nursing Leadership Program, an exclusive program for nurses in senior management roles who are working in the long-term care profession.

The Advanced Director of Nursing Leadership Program is part of the Long Term Care Leadership Institute, which was developed by the Foundation for Quality Care, a non-profit research and educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association. The innovative program, assisted by funds from the New York State Department of Health and Labor - Health Workforce Retraining Initiative, provides college-level credits through the State University of New York Institute of Technology’s (SUNYIT) School of Nursing and Health Systems in Utica and also provides contact hours New York State Nurses Association.

This advanced course is an addition to our already highly successful Leadership Institute which has developed and implemented courses for Administrators, Directors of Nursing, Staff Development Coordinators, First Line Managers and Quality Improvement Specialists. This course was developed directly as a result of directors of nursing requesting the next level of knowledge to help meet the national leadership competencies for nurses in long term care. We had many directors of nursing who had graduated from the basic course over the last 10 years attend this advanced one.

“No one is more important to the delivery of quality care than nurses and nurse leaders. We need to do everything we can to support them,” said Richard J. Herrick, President of the New York State Health Facilities Association and the Foundation for Quality Care. “Programs such as these are critical to the long-term success of skilled nursing facilities in New York State.”

The Long Term Care Leadership Program was designed to provide nursing leaders with an ongoing educational and peer networking program that promotes personal development, core competencies and best practices in the role of long-term care nursing.

“The Institute is even more critical in these times of staffing shortages and increased quality of care and financial pressures in the long-term care profession,” said Richard Patterson, Executive Director of the Foundation for Quality Care. “This program trains the current and most importantly, the next generation of nurse leaders who care for New York’s most frail populations.”

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Nurses Complete Nurse Leadership Program

The 21 participants who have completed the Advanced Director of Nursing Leadership Program are:

Valerie Barba, Director of Nursing Services, South Shore Healthcare, **Freeport**
Genevieve Castillo, Director of Nursing, Methodist Home For Nursing & Rehab, **Riverdale**
Gertrudes De Guzman, Director of Nursing, Sephardic Skilled Nursing & Rehab Center, **Brooklyn**
Carrol Ann dela Rosa, Director of Nursing, Oceanside Care Center, **Oceanside**
Kathleen Flood, Director of Nursing, Putnam Ridge, **Brewster**
Sharon Jackson-Smikle, Director of Nursing, Long Island Care Center, **Flushing**
Cynthia James - White, Director of Nursing Services, Atlantis Rehab & RHCF, **Brooklyn**
Anna Law, Director of Nursing, Peconic Bay Skilled Nursing Facility, **Riverhead**
Mary C. McGill, Director of Nursing, Grandell Rehab and Nursing Center, **Long Beach**
Lynette McKenzie, Director of Nursing, Bridgeview Nursing Home, **Whitestone**
Helen Okonkwo, Director of Nursing , Concourse Rehab and Nursing Center, **Bronx**
Pulintanath Rajeswari, Director of Nursing, Coler/Goldwater Specialty Hosp. & NF, **New York**
Jamie Reddington, Director of Nursing, Central Island Healthcare, **Plainview**
Stanlee Richards, Director of Nursing, Coler/Goldwater Specialty Hospital & Nursing Facility, **New York**
Marcia Roberson, Director of Nursing, Grace Plaza Nursing & Rehab Center, **Great Neck**
Doreen Sim, Director of Nursing, Fort Tryon Center for Rehab & Nursing, **New York**
Candace Spencer, Director of Nursing, Queens Center for Rehab & Residential HC, **Whitestone**
Eleanore Tache, Director of Nursing, Meadow Park Rehab & Health Care Center, **New Rochelle**
Hyacinth Victor, Director of Nursing, Suffolk Center for Rehab & Nursing, **Patchogue**
Elaine Williams, Director of Nursing, Brooklyn United Methodist Church Home, **Brooklyn**
Opal Williams-Simms, Asst. Director Nursing Services, ArchCare at St. Vincent de Paul Residence, **Bronx**

The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association and the New York State Center for Assisted Living, a statewide, membership organization of more than 270 licensed nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership includes individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. NYSHFA members, who care for more than 44,000 New Yorkers, are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of their residents.