



For Immediate Release

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**NINETEEN NURSES COMPLETE NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Exclusive Program Trains Rising Leaders in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

(ALBANY, N.Y.) – Nineteen nurses from northern metro area skilled nursing facilities have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s First Line Nurse Manager Program, an exclusive leadership program for nurses in middle management roles who aspire to become leaders in the long-term care profession.

The First Line Nurse Manager 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 and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration - Nurse Education, Practice and Retention Programs, provides continuing nursing education contact hours from the New York State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

“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 2-2-2

The 19 participants who have completed the First Line Nurse Manager Program are:

Gail Amendola, Unit Manager, Dutchess Center for Rehab. & Healthcare, **Pawling**
Marites Anderson, Charge Nurse, Salem Hills Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, **Purdys**
Angela Bargerstock, RN Supervisor, The Mountain View Nursing and Rehabilitation Centre, **New Paltz**
MaryAnne Belanger, Unit Manager, Dutchess Center for Rehab. & Healthcare, **Pawling**
Natalie Betcher, LPN, New York State Veterans' Home at Montrose, **Montrose**
Joanne Brutsman, Nurse Manager, Port Chester Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre, **Port Chester**
Mary Courtney, Director of Nursing, Victoria Home, **Ossining**
Margo Dempsey, Nurse Manager, Elant at Fishkill, **Beacon**
Jocelyn Giudice, RN Unit Manager, Wingate at Beacon, **Beacon**
Zsuzsa Glasscock, Nurse Manager, Cortlandt Healthcare, **Cortlandt Manor**
Susan Javaly, Sunshine Children's Home and Rehab Center, **Ossining**
Michele Licari, Nurse Manager, North Westchester Restorative Therapy & NC, **Mohegan Lake**
Lisa Mannino, Charge Nurse, Salem Hills Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, **Purdys**
Kira Milo, RN, Sarah Neuman Center for Healthcare & Rehabilitation, **Mamaroneck**
Sherri-Ann Reynolds, Unit Manager, Wingate at Ulster, **Highland**
Margarita Salazar, Nurse Manager, Cedar Manor Nursing & Rehab. Center, **Ossining**
Joan Symanski, Nursing Supervisor, Sullivan County Adult Care Center, **Liberty**
Dawn Vesely, RN Unit Manager, Wingate at Beacon, **Beacon**
Amy Weeks, Charge Nurse, Whittier Rehab. & Skilled Nursing Center, **Ghent**

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.