



For Immediate Release

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

(ALBANY, N.Y.) – Eighteen nurses from New York City 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 18 participants who have completed the First Line Nurse Manager Program are:

Jesus Bacareza, RN Supervisor, Meadow Park Rehab. & Health Care Center, **Flushing**

Mark Bowen, RN, Four Seasons Nursing & Rehab. Center, **Brooklyn**

Marva DaSilva, RNC, Eastchester Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, **Bronx**

Aileen Gallivan, Nurse Manager, Incarnation Childrens Center Inc., **New York**

Jo Ji Ganaban, MDS Coordinator, Sea View Hospital Rehab. Center & Home, **Staten Island**

Vivian Grefaldeo, Nurse Manager, Methodist Church Home For The Aged, **Bronx**

MaChristina La Forteza, Clinical Nurse Manager, Buena Vida Continuing Care & Rehab Ctr, **Brooklyn**

Liza Long, Community Director, Cobble Hill Nursing Home Inc., **Brooklyn**

Silvylyn Moxam, RN, Union Plaza Nursing Home Inc., **Flushing**

Iwona Poltowicz, Unit Manager, Clove Lakes Health Care & Rehab Center Inc., **Staten Island**

Lavern Pryce, Nurse Manager, Queens Center for Rehabilitation & Residential HC, **Whitestone**

Irina Radu, RN, DeWitt Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, **New York**

Sosamma Saji, RN, CNM, Buena Vida Continuing Care & Rehab Ctr, **Brooklyn**

Anne Sancho, RN, DeWitt Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, **New York**

Kelloney Thompson, RN Manager, Kings Harbor Multicare Center, **Bronx**

Curtis Titre, RN Supervisor, Crown Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, **Brooklyn**

Michaela Tuozzo, RN Supervisor, Meadow Park Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, **Flushing**

Lena Vernon- Baines, RN Manager, Kings Harbor Multicare Center, **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.