



For Immediate Release

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### **LASKER AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP**

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. – Ashlie Lasker, a licensed practical nurse at ElderWood Health Care at Maplewood in Cheektowaga, N.Y. received a 2010 James D. Durante RN Scholarship from the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA) yesterday. The award was presented during the association’s annual convention in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Ms. Lasker is a resident of Cheektowaga, N.Y.

The James D. Durante RN Scholarship is granted to nursing students who are currently advancing their skills and knowledge in the nursing profession and are dedicated to providing high quality care to residents of long-term healthcare facilities. The scholarship is administered by the Foundation for Quality Care, Inc., a non-profit educational and research foundation affiliated with NYSHFA.

“The need for qualified nursing staff in New York State is more critical than ever,” said Richard J. Herrick, President and CEO of NYSHFA. “This scholarship was established to assist nurses in their education. It is vitally important to provide support to encourage individuals to pursue a rewarding career in nursing.”

“Ashlie has shown herself to be a dedicated employee who strives to meet the needs of both our staff and residents,” said Scott West, administrator of ElderWood Health Care at Maplewood. “Her dedication, skills and compassion will serve her well as a nurse in the long term care setting.”

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*The New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL) is a statewide membership organization of more than 270 licensed skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership is diversified and represents individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. Members take care of more than 44,000 ill, aged and infirm New Yorkers. Members of NYSHFA/NYSCAL are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of all residents.*