



For Immediate Release
May 18, 2010

Contacts: Richard Patterson
Foundation for Quality Care
518-462-4800 ext. 19

**TWENTY-ONE NURSES COMPLETE NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Exclusive Program Trains Rising Leaders in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

(UTICA, N.Y.) – Twenty-one nurses from nursing facilities across New York State have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s Nurse Educator Course, an exclusive leadership program for nurses in senior management roles who aspire to become or remain leaders in the long-term care profession.

The Nurse Educator Course 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, funded by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration Nurse Education, Practice & Retention Program and the New York State Department of Health’s grant program, the 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. It is also approved by the New York State Department of Health as a train the trainer program for registered nurses who provide the nursing assistant certificate course.

“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 next generation of nurse leaders to care for New York’s most frail populations.”

-- More --

Nurses Complete Nurse Leadership Program 2-2-2

The 21 participants who have completed the Nurse Educator Course are:

Julie Andersen, MDS Coordinator/Staff Development, Penn Yan Manor Nursing Home, **Penn Yan**
Shirley Benson, The Orchard Nursing and Rehabilitation Centre, **Granville**
Debbie Boyle, Nurse Educator, Regency Extended Care Center, **Yonkers**
JoAnna Carr, Dir. of Staff Development, Susquehanna Nursing & Rehab. Center, **Johnson City**
Sherri Cassidy, ADON, Valley View Center for Nursing Care & Rehabilitation, **Goshen**
Kimberly Colbath, Staff Development Coordinator, James Square Health & Rehab Centre, **Syracuse**
Lilia Crispino, RN In-Service Coordinator, Shore View Nursing Home, **Brooklyn**
Joan Hawco, Asst. Director of Nursing, Kaleida - Waterfront Health Care Center, **Buffalo**
Cindi Hughes, ADON, MDS Coordinator, East Side Nursing and Rehab. Center, **Warsaw**
Dawn McIntyre, RN Staff Development, The Crossings Nursing and Rehab. Centre, **Minoa**
Judy McNamara, Cortland Care Center, **Cortland**
Sophia Mikolon, Staff Educator, The Hurlbut, **Rochester**
Angelina Pioroda, Staff Development, Sands Point Center for Health & Rehab, **Port Washington**
Shelly Repasky, Clinical Instructor, ElderWood Health Care at Tioga, **Waverly**
Elnora Robinson, Dir. of Quality Assurance; Delaware Nursing & Rehab. Center, **Buffalo**
Christina Seguire, ADNS, North Westchester Restorative Therapy & NC, **Mohegan Lake**
Sherry Smith, RN Supervisor, The Country Manor Nursing and Rehab. Centre, **Carthage**
Anastaisa Squillace, Staff Educator, River Ridge Living Center, **Amsterdam**
Nancy Strassner, Manager of Professional Development, Highlands Living Center, **Pittsford**
Stacey Tucholski, Staff Development Coordinator, Wingate at Dutchess, **Fishkill**
Judith Volpe, RN, Unity Health System, **Rochester**

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.