



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 northeastern New York area nursing facilities have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s Director of Nursing Leadership Program, an exclusive program for nurses in senior management roles who aspire to become or remain leaders in the long-term care profession.

The 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 and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration - Nurse Education, Practice and Retention Programs, provides college-level credits through the State University of New York Institute of Technology’s (SUNYIT) School of Nursing and Health Systems in Utica.

“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 Director of Nursing Leadership Program are:

Marilyn Babcock, Assitant DON, Julie Blair Nursing & Rehab, **East Greenbush**

Teresa Barnes, AND/MDS Coordinator, Kaaterskill Care Skilled Nursing and Rehab, **Catskill**

Lisa Bigda, Director of Nursing, Resurrection Health Care, **Castleton**

Clarice Bobb, Nursing Supervisor, The Firemen's Home, **Hudson**

Kimberley Garso, Director of Nursing, Saratoga County Maplewood Manor, **Ballston Spa**

Laurie Gorski, Assitant DON, Teresian House Center for Elderly, **Albany**

Ellen Haegele, RN, DON, Eddy Heritage House Nursing Center, **Troy**

Sandra Lyga, DNS, The Dutch Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation centre, **Rotterdam**

Rebecca C. Lyon, Director of Nursing, St. Johnsville Rehab. and Nursing Center, **St. Johnsville**

Lee Ann Malseptic, Assitant DON, Evergreen Valley Nursing Home, **Plattsburgh**

Joan Moutray, Director of Nursing, Northwood's at Rosewood Gardens, **Rensselaer**

Laura O' Mara, Director of Nursing, Saratoga Care Nursing Home, **Saratoga Springs**

Annelise Prahach, Director of Nursing, Putnam Ridge, **Brewster**

Susan Quackenbush, Director of Nursing, River Ridge Living Center, **Amsterdam**

Janet Rodriquez, Director of Nursing, Schatter extended care center, **New Rochelle**

April Smith, Director of Nursing, Evergreen Valley Nursing Home, **Plattsburgh**

Nancy Truland, Director of Nursing, Adirondack Tri-County Nursing & Rehab Center, **Chestertown**

Eric Vedder, Director of Nursing, Northeast Center for Special Care, **Lake Katrine**

Valente Zocchi, Program Manager, Northeast Center for Special Care, **Lake Katrine**

The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association, a statewide, membership organization of more than 250 licensed nursing facilities. The membership includes individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. NYSHFA members, who care for more than 42,000 New Yorkers, are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of their residents.