



AHCA
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Caregiver
AWARDS

2019

Sponsorships establish a partnership between our member facilities and the professionals who deliver goods and services to them. The people representing the organizations listed below help AHCA / AALA further the education of our members and their staffs, provide support to the Arkansas Health Care Association, and promote quality care in our member facilities. Please recognize and thank our partners when you are doing business with them.

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SAVE THE DATE

Caregiver Awards Celebration

November 19, 2019

Little Rock Marriott Hotel

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Select one:

- Administrator of the Year
- DON of the Year
- Nurse of the Year
- Dietary Team Member of the Year
- CNA of the Year
- Team Member of the Year
- Assisted Living Team Member of the Year
- Environmental Services Team Member of the Year
- Emergency Preparedness Champion of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year – Adult, Youth, Group

2019 CAREGIVER AWARD NOMINATION FORM

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Nominee Information:

Name _____ Title _____

Date of Hire _____ Length of Service: _____ Year(s) _____ Month(s)

Nominator Information:

Name _____ Title _____

Telephone Number _____ Fax # _____

Email Address _____

Facility Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Total Number of Residents in the Facility _____

The winner will be honored at the Fall Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas on November 19, 2019. In addition, the winner in each category will receive free registration for the 2020 AHCA/AALA Spring Convention and Trade Show. Each member facility may submit one nomination per category each year. Incomplete nominations and applicants not meeting all of the criteria will be disqualified. Please refer to Caregiver booklet for full requirements for nominations. Visit www.arhealthcare.com for more information.

If any facility where the administrator has been employed during the past 3 years has had any substandard quality of care, Immediate Jeopardy, Type A Citations, or is a Special Focus Facility, the nomination must disclose and explain the citation. Also if the administrator's current facility has experienced the same during the past 3 years, the nomination must disclose and explain. Although disclosure will not automatically exclude the administrator, it is important that the judges and the association be aware of those citations.

Submit your Nomination Form and Required Letters of Nomination no later than August 30, 2019.

AHCA/AALA
Attn: Cat Hamilton
1401 West Capitol, Suite 180
Little Rock, AR 72201
chamilton@arhealthcare.com
Fax: (501) 374-1077

2018 Caregiver Award Winners



Administrator of the Year

Dana Battiest, Little River Nursing & Rehab

DON of the Year

Daphne Brown, Ozark Health Nursing and Rehab Center

Nurse of the Year

Tammy Fowler, Pleasant Manor Nursing and Rehab

Dietary Team Member of the Year

Norma Pearson, Johnson County Health and Rehab

CNA of the Year

Peggy Honeycutt, Highland Court, A Rehabilitation and
Resident Care Facility

Tanya Luker, Russellville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Leah Potter, Greene Acres Nursing Home

Team Member of the Year

Heidi Baxter, Seven Springs Rehabilitation and Health Center

Machelle Holt, Russellville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Environmental Team Member of the Year

Elton Wyborny, Brookridge Cove Rehabilitation and Care Center

Emergency Preparedness Champion of the Year

Barbara Williams, Cave City Nursing Home

Adult Volunteer of the Year

Lynn Westmoreland, Cave City Nursing Home

Administrator of the Year Award

Every army needs a general, every team needs a captain, and every long term care facility needs an Administrator. The duties of the long term care Administrator encompass anything from mentor, friend, boss, teacher, leader and everything in between. Every Administrator must wear many hats and know what it means to walk in others' shoes. Most importantly, an Administrator must have a strong desire to provide the best care possible to their residents and the best work environment for their staff. Part fearless leader, part nurturing caretaker, this award honors those Administrators dedicated to the long term care profession and the residents that are under their care.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be currently employed as an Administrator in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of five (5) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, and a minimum of two (2) years' experience as Administrator in the nominating facility.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from employing Owner/Operator, Director of Operations, or Board of Directors.
- Letter from the facility Director of Nursing who has worked with the nominee.
- Letter from another department head, co-worker or consultant.

Optional Letters:

- Up to three (3) letters of support from staff, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Describe the nominee's leadership style and provide instances where the nominee went beyond the call of duty to be an excellent Administrator.
- Elaborate how the nominee facilitates effective and efficient work and communication throughout the different departments of the facility.
- Describe the impact the nominee has on their staff, residents and families, including the nominee's impact on the quality of life of those mentioned.
- How does the nominee integrate innovation into their facility, increasing the quality of life of both residents and staff?
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Administrator of the Year Award.

Director of Nursing (DON) of the Year Award

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be currently employed as a DON in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of four (4) years' experience as a DON in a long term care facility in Arkansas, and at least two (2) years' experience within the nominating facility.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from employing Owner/Operator, Director of Operations, or Board of Directors.
- Letter from another department head, co-worker or consultant.

Optional Letters:

- Up to three (3) letters of support from staff, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Illustrate the nominee's dedication to nursing staff, including leadership, program efficacy and positive impact on the nursing staff.
- Describe the nominee's interaction and support of other departments and staff.
- How does the nominee impact residents and their quality of care/life?
- Describe how the nominee performs above and beyond the duties required of them.
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the DON of the Year Award.

This award celebrates the commitment every Director of Nursing (DON) must have to their residents and their profession. In essence, a DON is the brain behind the caregiving operation. Coordinating their nurses to administer upstanding care while tackling emergency situations are just a few of the DON's job duties. This position requires a leader flexible enough to deal with unexpected circumstances yet caring enough to ensure that each resident enjoys the highest quality of life. This award honors those impeccable leaders committed to their residents, their residents' health and their nurses' quality of life.

Nurse of the Year Award

The Nurse of the Year Award celebrates the unending dedication required of the long term care Nurse. These nominees not only provide care but also allow residents to feel at home, feel cared for and feel loved. The responsibilities of the long term care Nurse encompass those of the physician and the caretaker. The importance of these nominees to the quality of life of their residents cannot be overstated. This award celebrates the myriad duties of the long term care Nurse and the personal commitment it takes to be one.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be currently employed as a licensed Nurse in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of four (4) years' experience as a licensed Nurse in a long term care facility in Arkansas, and at least two (2) years' experience within the nominating facility; and must be employed as a licensed Nurse in an AHCA/AALA facility at the time of the nomination and award presentation.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the facility DON who has worked with the nominee.
- Letter from another department head, co-worker or consultant.

Optional Letters:

- Up to three (3) letters of support from staff, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- How is your nominee an exceptional caregiver, exceeding what is expected of them?
- Note specific examples of your nominee's exceptional skill in delivering care.
- How does your nominee promote the dignity of your facility's residents?
- Describe how your nominee interacts and supports other departments and staff members.
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Nurse of the Year Award.

Dietary Team Member of the Year Award

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be currently employed in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of two (2) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, with one (1) year experience in the nominating facility.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the Department Head who has worked with the nominee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to four (4) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

- Each letter of nomination should include the following: Note the nominee's length of employment, including how they began working for the facility.
- Does the nominee engage in leadership or innovative approaches to working with fellow staff and residents?
- Illustrate examples of the nominee's initiative, commitment and caring.
- Describe the impact of the nominee on the working environment, their fellow staff and residents.
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Dietary Team Member of the Year Award.

Recipients of the Dietary Team Member of the Year Award display the utmost commitment in their work, nourishing the residents and staff of their facility. Providing the residents of our state safe, healthy and delicious food fulfills one of their most basic needs – the need for sustenance. What makes these award finalists exemplary is their dedication to exceed what is simply sufficient and provide the excellent. This award honors the tireless work it takes to nurture our residents to health and happiness.

Dr. Virginia Vollmer Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) of the Year Award

Dr. Virginia Vollmer exemplified dedication to the nursing profession and those she served. She received her RN, AB and MS at the University of Cincinnati, as Master's degree in Clinical Nursing at the University of Southern Carolina and a PhD in Physiology and Embryology at the State University of Iowa. Her career took her through Idaho, Iowa, Ohio and Arkansas. She was a Fulbright scholar in the Netherlands researching cellular biology, which led to an invitation to continue her research at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City. Her academic credentials translated into a career of service and excellence. Dr. Vollmer was an active participant in public health and health education organizations, including a period teaching at the College of Nursing at the University of Arkansas. For her lifetime commitment to service, she received the Arkansas Nurse Association Nurse of the Year Award, induction into the Arkansas Senior Hall of Fame, and we at the Arkansas Health Care Association were honored to name our CNA Award in her honor. Recipients of this award mirror Dr. Vollmer's dedication to her field and patients. Although Dr. Vollmer passed away in 2011, her legacy lives on in the everyday passion that exceptional caregivers bring with them in caring for their patients. This award celebrates these CNAs that carry on Dr. Vollmer's legacy through dedication, care and service to those in need.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must have a minimum of two years' experience as a CNA in a long term care facility in Arkansas, and must be an employed CNA of an AHCA/AALA member facility at the time of the award nomination and presentation.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the facility Director of Nursing who has worked with the nominee.
- Letter from Charge Nurse.

Optional Letters:

- Up to three (3) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Note the CNA's length of service to the facility's residents, including when and how they began working in the nominating facility.
- Describe instances where the nominee went above and beyond normal job duties, whether through work on the facility floor, volunteer work or leadership roles among staff and residents.
- How does the nominee promote dignity among the facility's residents?
- Describe the impact the nominee has had on his or her co-workers, residents, other departments and family members.
- Tell the Awards Committee how the nominee carries the legacy of Dr. Virginia Vollmer and why they deserve the Dr. Virginia Vollmer CNA of the Year Award.

Team Member of the Year Award

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be a current employee in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of two (2) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, and at least one (1) year experience within the nominating facility.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of two (2) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the Department Head who has worked with the nominee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to four (4) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Describe the relationship of the nominee to the nominating facility, including length of employment and responsibilities.
- Illustrate the nominee's positive impact on patient care/quality of life, facility operations and department atmosphere.
- Describe the nominee's dedication to their department and fellow staff members.
- Has the nominee involved themselves in leadership, innovation and duties outside of their position?
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Team Member of the Year Award.

The Team Member of the Year Award celebrates the hard work it takes to keep a facility up and running. The positions considered for this award work behind the scenes, ensuring the front-line caregivers have the resources they need to keep residents happy, healthy and loving life. People nominated for this award are loved for their enthusiasm and dedication. This award honors the tireless work team members give to our member facilities.

Assisted Living Team Member of the Year Award

Recipients of the Assisted Living Team Member of the Year Award are dedicated to the long term care profession and their residents' well-being. Whether an administrator, nurse, or other staff member, the Assisted Living Team Member of the Year strives to provide the highest quality care in a choice-driven, dignified, safe and clean environment, and to promote independence and maintain the highest quality of life. This award celebrates the commitment and service of an Assisted Living Team Member.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Nominee must be currently employed in an AALA member facility with a minimum of two (2) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, with one (1) year experience in the nominating facility.

- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the Department Head who has worked with the nominee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to four (4) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

- Each letter of nomination should include the following: Note the nominee's length of employment, including how they began working for the facility.
- Does the nominee engage in leadership or innovative approaches to working with fellow staff and residents?
- Illustrate examples of the nominee's initiative, commitment and caring.
- Describe the impact of the nominee on the working environment, their fellow staff and residents.
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Assisted Living Team Member of the Year Award.

Environmental Services Team Member of the Year Award

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominee must be currently employed in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of two (2) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, with one (1) year experience in the nominating facility.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the Department Head who has worked with the nominee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to four (4) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Describe the relationship of the nominee to the nominating facility, including length of employment and responsibilities.
- Illustrate the nominee's positive impact on patient care/quality of life, facility operations and department atmosphere.
- Describe the nominee's dedication to their department and fellow staff members.
- Has the nominee involved themselves in leadership, innovation and duties outside of their position?
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Environmental Services Team Member of the Year Award.

This award celebrates the dedication every environmental services employee should have. This team of housekeepers, laundry aides, and maintenance specialists is one that gives the first impression of the facility upon entering the building as well as providing an effective function of ongoing environmental items. These individuals choose to go above and beyond the minimum expectations, and strive for excellence. These award finalists take pride in how laundry is sorted and hung, the cleanliness of the floors, and the standards of quality by which repairs are maintained.

Emergency Preparedness Champion of the Year Award

The Emergency Preparedness Champion of the Year is a staff member in long term care who works to implement preparedness efforts in their facility, or demonstrated exceptional leadership during a recent disruptive event. Whether spring, summer, fall, or winter, the Emergency Preparedness Champions ensure that facilities are prepared for any disaster. This award celebrates the unique yet necessary role and tireless dedication of an Emergency Preparedness Champion.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Nominee must be currently employed in an AHCA/AALA member facility with a minimum of two (2) years' experience in a long term care facility in Arkansas, with one (1) year experience in the nominating facility.

- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019. The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.

Required Letters:

- Letter of nomination from the facility Administrator or designee.
- Letter from the Department Head who has worked with the nominee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to four (4) letters of support from co-workers, residents, resident council, resident families or family councils are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following: Note the nominee's length of employment, including how they began working for the facility.

- Does the nominee have experience in managing a disruptive event in their facility? Does the nominee participate in State or AHCA/AALA sponsored Emergency Preparedness Education.
- Describe the nominee's involvement with local officials (Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Public Health, Regional Coordinating Hospital (RCH), etc.)
- Describe the nominee's involvement with Statewide Emergency Preparedness initiatives (State-sponsored Regional Exercises, Long Term Care Emergency Operations Plan, FEMA courses, etc.)
- Illustrate examples of how the nominee implements preparedness efforts in facility.
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Emergency Preparedness Champion of the Year Award.

Volunteer of the Year Award

3 Categories: Adult, Youth & Group

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominees for awards must be nominated by an AHCA/AALA member facility.
- Nominees must have served in an AHCA/AALA member facility for at least one (1) year.
- Letters of support must accompany the nomination.
- Nominee must be available to attend the 2019 Caregiver Awards Celebration, November 19, 2019, in Little Rock, Arkansas at the expense of the employing facility. A complimentary ticket will be provided for the winner and one additional guest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION

The following must be received by AHCA / AALA office no later than August 30, 2019.

Required Letters:

- The nomination form and a minimum of three (3) or maximum of six (6) letters of nomination.
- Letter of recommendation from Administrator or designee.

Optional Letters:

- Up to five (5) letters of support from staff, residents, family members, etc. are optional.

LETTERS OF NOMINATION

Each letter of nomination should include the following:

- Describe the volunteer's length of service, including when and how they began volunteering in the member facility.
- Illustrate the volunteer's activities and contributions, including leadership roles and instituting programs and activities.
- Explain the impact the volunteer has had on the quality of life of residents, family members and facility staff.
- How has the volunteer experienced personal growth coming out of their time volunteering?
- Tell the Awards Committee why the nominee deserves the Volunteer of the Year Award in the Youth, Group, or Adult categories.

The Volunteer of the Year Award celebrates the selfless service volunteers give to their residents. The work of volunteers enhances the quality of life of residents and staff. They are truly blessings to the long term care community. This award honors outstanding volunteers and their indispensable work in our member facilities.



Caregiver
AWARDS

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