

For Immediate Release
June 13, 2024



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WHCA Announces “Excellence in Service” Award Winners

Olympia, WA - Washington Health Care Association (WHCA) has selected eight outstanding individuals from Washington’s long-term care community as the recipients of the 2024 Excellence in Service awards.

These awards shine a much-deserved spotlight on the nurses, caregivers, and administrators who dedicate their lives to serving Washington residents in long-term care facilities. “It’s highly challenging work,” notes Carma Matti-Jackson, President and CEO of WHCA. “These awards recognize individuals who consistently overcome those challenges and are exceptional in areas of quality, standards of care, and culture. Award winners demonstrate outstanding resident-centered care, contribute to the positive well-being of residents, and demonstrate a positive attitude.”

Winners are chosen each year from assisted living and skilled nursing facilities within WHCA membership, after being nominated by their colleagues in one of four categories. The 2024 winners are:

- Jymmie Reed, Assisted Living Administrator of the Year
Sharon Care Assisted Living (20th District)
- Emyli Shipton, Assisted Living Noble Caregiver of the Year
Easthaven Villa (2nd District)
- Evalane Hernandez, Assisted Living Nurse of the Year
Nikkei Manor (37th District)

- Katrina Brecht, Assisted Living Red Carpet Quality Award
Riverview Lutheran Retirement Community of Spokane (3rd District)
- Adam Canary, Skilled Nursing Facility Administrator of the Year
Bainbridge Island Health and Rehab (23rd District)
- Valerie Keenan, Skilled Nursing Facility Noble Caregiver of the Year
Alderwood Post Acute and Rehabilitation (32nd District)
- Annie Smith, Skilled Nursing Facility Nurse of the Year
Othello Care Center (15th District)
- Leesa Warner, Skilled Nursing Facility Red Carpet Quality Award
Marysville Care Center (38th District)

Each winner was honored at a special luncheon during WHCA's Annual Convention in Spokane on May 21. Additionally, Kelli Carr of Consonus Pharmacy was presented with a lifetime achievement award in recognition of her decades of service to the long-term care community in Washington. WHCA applauds and thanks each of these recipients for the incredible impact their passionate service has on the residents and communities in their care.

About Washington Health Care Association (WHCA)

Washington Health Care Association is a nonprofit professional association for the long-term care community in Washington, representing 156 skilled nursing and 404 assisted living providers across the state. In partnership with these member facilities and business partners, WHCA promotes and advocates for healthy, affordable, and ethical long-term care at the state and federal levels. For more information, visit whca.org.

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