AHCA/NCAL Announces 2017 Award Recipients

Association recognizes dedication to improving the lives of seniors and individuals with disabilities

Washington, D.C. – The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) announced the recipients for the 2017 AHCA/NCAL Awards program today. Each year, AHCA/NCAL recognizes the men and women who selflessly care for individuals in long term and post-acute care centers, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) residences, and assisted living communities. Honorees demonstrate selflessness, compassion, and strive to enhance the lives of seniors and individuals with disabilities in their communities.

The 2017 AHCA/NCAL Awards recipients are:

- **Hero of the Year - Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities:** Cathy Gray, Cedarcrest Center for Children with Disabilities, Keene, N.H.
- **Not for Profit Program of the Year:** Trinity Oaks Health and Rehab Life Enrichment, Trinity Oaks Health and Rehab, Salisbury, N.C.
- **Not for Profit Trustee Award:** Peter Miesburger, Maine Veterans’ Home, Augusta, Maine
- **Adult Volunteer of the Year:** Mike Howard, Harlan Health and Rehabilitation Center, Ky.
- **Group Volunteer of the Year:** Bryant Parkview Care Center Auxiliary, Bryant Parkview Care Center, Bryant, S.D.
- **Young Adult Volunteer of the Year:** Luke Flippo, Diversicare of Amory, Amory, Miss.

The *Hero of the Year* award recognizes an individual who works or volunteers in an ICF/IID facility or HCBS Waiver Homes and has shown commitment and dedication to serving people with ID/DD.

The *Not for Profit Program of the Year* award highlights a specific program that adds value to the care of individuals within a community.

The *Not for Profit Trustee* award honors a not for profit trustee committed to faithfully carrying out functions of the board and dedicated to improving the lives of frail and vulnerable individuals.
The *Volunteer of the Year* program seeks to honor a young adult (under 19), an adult, and a group organization that have served in a volunteer capacity for more than one year and have made a positive contribution to residents and staff of a care center.

Award recipients will be honored at the AHCA/NCAL 67th Annual Convention in Las Vegas on October 18, 2017.

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**ABOUT AHCA/NCAL**
The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represents more than 13,500 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and development disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit [www.ahca.org](http://www.ahca.org) or [www.ncal.org](http://www.ncal.org).