

Below please find updates on the latest news from the Council:

- **49th Annual Home Care Aide Celebration**
- **Home Care Worker Registry Update**
- **News from Council Partners with Online Training Provider, *CareAcademy***

49th Annual Home Care Aide Celebration

More than 150 aides, member agency representatives, and partners attended the Council's 49th Annual Home Care Aide Celebration on November 14 at The Lantana in Randolph. The event honors home care aides throughout Massachusetts whose work enables so many elders and disabled individuals to remain safely in their own homes. Lynn Vidler, Director of Home Care and Community Based Programs at the Executive Office of Elder Affairs welcomed everyone to the event. James Francis was the keynoter and spoke to the attendees about "Taking Care of YOU" and the importance of looking after your own well-being.



Each year awards are presented to individuals who exemplify the high caliber of service performed by dedicated home care aides, home care supervisors, and ASAP Case Managers. This year agencies and ASAPs nominated 45 individuals for awards. In early November Ghersy Damas of Guardian HealthCare, Jayne Kelleher and Georgia Medeiros of Bethany at Home and Divina Masso of Urban Community Homemaker – Home Health Aide Services met to select the award recipients. During the afternoon, the Council also recognized aides in attendance with over 25 years of service in the Industry. Descriptions of the awards presented, the nominees and the winners are listed below.



Effie Chalmers Waddell Homemaker/Personal Care Home Maker Award

This award is given in memory of Effie Chalmers Waddell, a pioneer in homemaker service from Quincy. The recipient exemplifies the outstanding dedication and exceptional skills brought to the delivery of home care by so many competent home care aides across the Commonwealth.

Nominees:

Claudia Cifuentes, Aftercare Services Inc. Universal Home Care

Monica Campbell, Caribbean Foundation/Urban Homemaking

Yanibel Acevedo, Associated Home Care

Sandra Gallant, Anodyne

Candida Amparo, Friendly Care, Inc.

Manori Wijetunga, Best of Care – 2019 Effie Chalmers Waddell Homemaker/Personal Care Home Maker Award recipient

Kirstin Krzanowski, O’Connell Care at Home

Hilda LaRocca Home Health Aide Award

This award is given in honor of Hilda LaRocca, the motivating force behind the Council's creation. Recipients exemplify the combination of commitment, personal care skills, and compassion typical of Massachusetts home health aides.

Nominees:

Merys Sanchez, Aftercare Services Inc. Universal Home Care

Dilcia Brea, Caribbean Foundation/Urban Homemaking – 2019 Hilda LaRocca Home Health Aide Award recipient

Matthew Mulbah, Associated Home Care

Rhonda Raposo, Anodyne

Denise Thomas Noel, Visiting Nurse and Community Care

Marie Boucard, Advanced Home Care Services, LLC

Marybeth Stapleton, Bayada Home Health Care

Emmanuella Toussaint, Best of Care

Deborah Foley, O’Connell Care at Home

Maria Brosseau, Elara Caring dba Medical Resources

Mattie Cummings, Bethany at Home



Verlean Foster Home Care Aide Award

This award is given in memory of Verlean Foster, a home care aide with over 20 years of experience, who in 1999 served as one of the first aides assigned to work in one of the three original “Supportive Housing Initiative” pilot sites. Nominations are accepted from staff of the Aging Service Access Points (ASAPs). The recipient represents dedicated home care aides who serve as a leader and role model to their peers.

Nominees:

Madeleine Etienne, Anodyne

Ernesto Garcia, Suburban Homemaker & Maternity Agency, Inc.

Darlene McGinnis, O’Connell Care at Home – 2019 Verlean Foster Home Care Award recipient

Selma Cohen “Rookie of the Year” Home Care Aide Award

This award is given in memory of Selma Cohen who was a longstanding President of the Council. This award is presented to an individual who is new to the home care industry, working as a home care aide for less than 2 years.

Nominees:

Graciela Martinez, Aftercare Services Inc. Universal Home Care

Janice Giddings, Caribbean Foundation/Urban Homemaking

Sarina Amato, Associated Home Care

Tarina Rodriguez, Anodyne – 2019 Selma Cohen “Rookie of the Year” Home Care Aide Award recipient

Eduard Petrosyan, Friendly Care, Inc.

Melinda Ford, Best of Care

Heather Peck, O’Connell Care at Home

Lisa Nichols, Elara Caring dba Medical Resources

Carlene McGoldrick Kenney Scheduler/Coordinator Award

This award is given in memory of Carlene McGoldrick Kenney, Assistant Director of Intercity Homemaker Service and President-Elect of the Council in 1996, the year she died in a hiking accident. The recipient represents the qualities exemplified by Carlene: consideration for the client as well as effective communication and problem-solving skills.

Nominees:

Connie Rogers, Home Resources Inc. dba Brandon Woods Home Care

Joannette Marrero, Caribbean Foundation/Urban Homemaking



Keshia Martinez, Prime Home Health and Companion Care

Alycia Myers, Associated Home Care

Jhoanna Santana, Visiting Nurse and Community Care

Carla Oliveira, Advanced Home Care Services, Inc.

Erica DaSilva, Bayada Home Health Care – 2019 Carlene McGoldrick Kenney Scheduler/Coordinator Award recipient

Ema Woods-Urbana, Friendly Care, Inc.

Julie Howard, Best of Care

Shannon Carvalho, O'Connell Care at Home

Jean Flynn, Anodyne

Jeannette Vallone, Elara Caring dba Medical Resources

Cathe Madden Case Manager Award

This award for ASAP Case Managers is given in memory of Cathe Madden who demonstrated extraordinary enthusiasm, innovation, and commitment to her job.

Nominees:

Lyndsay Kindy, Anodyne

Ken Alpert, Springwell – 2019 Cathe Madden Case Manager Award recipient

Geri Marino, Elara Caring dba Medical Resources

James Carroll Ally Award

This award is given in honor of James (Jim) Carroll, the nephew of long-time Council Board member, Patricia Probst. Jim, who passed away unexpectedly in 2018, assisted the Council in organizing and hosting the Annual Celebration for over six years. The James Carroll Ally Award is given to an individual or organization that exemplifies Jim's commitment to assisting the Council and our mission; contributing to the advancement of the home care aide workforce.

The recipient of the 2019 James Carroll Ally Award is Ms. Beulah Providence of Urban Community Homemaker and Home Health Aide Services for her decades of service to her community and to the Council.



We would also like to thank Devon Garon of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Michael Festa of AARP, Lisa Gurgone of Mass Home Care, Karen Shack of Commonwealth Corporation, Alison Simmons of CCHERS/HEART Home Health Care Training Program and Lisa Marschke of UMass Medical School for presenting the awards.

We would like to thank our sponsors without whom the event would not be possible:

- Speaker Sponsor
 - PhRMA
- Platinum Level Sponsors
 - AARP of Massachusetts
 - Anodyne Homemaker Services Corporation
 - Associated Home Care
 - Bayada Home Health Care
 - Best of Care, Inc.
 - Friendly Care Services
 - Multicultural Home Care, Inc.
- Gold Level Sponsors
 - Brockton Home Health Agency
 - Caribbean Foundation/Urban Community Homemaking
 - Home Health Resources, Inc.
 - Old Colony Elder Services
 - Seraphic Springs
- Silver Level Sponsors
 - Central Boston Elder Services
 - Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts
 - Mass Home Care
 - Capitol Services

Foundation manager Sydney Axelrod emceed a fun raffle drawing with prizes donated by:

- Anodyne Homemaker Services Corporation
- Best of Care, Inc.
- Bethany at Home
- Home Care Aide Council
- North Shore Community Action Programs, Inc.
- O'Connell Care at Home
- Home Health and Child Care Services, Inc.



The Home Care Aide Council is grateful for the support of all our members in putting on this inspiring and very happy event annually!



Home Care Worker Registry Update

We wanted to update you and let you know that the registry is projected to be available to the public and qualified entities, barring any technical difficulties, on or about December 26, 2019.

The quarterly report refresh schedule and process is currently being developed and more information will be released regarding this in the next few weeks from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

If a worker is included on the registry and then decides they would like to have their name and information removed from the registry, a request shall be made to the Home Care Registry staff within EOE, and the worker's information will be redacted as soon as is reasonably possible and will be removed from any future publications of the registry.

News from Council Partner Online Training Provider, CareAcademy

CareAcademy has launched a new Home Health Aide (HHA) training program that meets the federal requirements necessary to train qualified HHAs in Massachusetts.

To learn more: <https://careacademy.com/certified-hha-training-program/>

The program's curriculum meets the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Conditions of Participation for Home Health Aide Services (42 CFR § 484.80) and includes:

- 59 hours of video-based online training
- 17+ hours of in-person training and skills practice (with your own instructor)
- Instructor manual and lesson plans to deliver in-person training
- End-of-program knowledge exam

To learn more about the program, get a free trial, or sign up your caregivers, schedule a time with our team: <https://careacademy.com/demo/> or call us at 1-866-227-3895 ext. 3.

CareAcademy provides home care agencies with a best in class online education platform that delivers engaging video-based classes and real-world scenarios that walk-through aspects of the caregiver experience. CareAcademy offers great resources to help manage caregiver training so you can acquire and retain the talent you need to grow your business. Their mission, like the Council's, is to help agencies and caregivers provide excellent care.

Through the Council's partnership with them, Council members will receive exclusive discounts on Care Academy offerings. For more information and to see what Care Academy can do to meet your agency's training needs, and to sign up for exclusive deals for Council members please visit: <https://careacademy.com/?afmc=1s>.

Please also note that because of the many new features that CareAcademy has launched, they are also updating their pricing in 2020 for NEW Customers. So, if you are thinking about



upgrading your training program, now is the time! Sign up before the end of the year to take advantage of 2019 pricing!

CareAcademy's online training platform works on smartphones, lets agency administrators easily view and download training progress, automatically sends reminders to your caregivers, and more!

If you're on the fence, you can even try CareAcademy free before committing to sign up:

Free Trial: <https://info.careacademy.com/free-trial-2019>

The Council will continue to keep you updated on these issues and will be sure to let you know what you can do to support our work to strengthen the Home Care Aide workforce in Massachusetts. Thank you for your continued support of the Home Care Aide Council!