

2004 Award Winners

Rick Mountz, vice president of the Cumberland Region, and Helen Karamanos, a volunteer at Rivergate Terrace in Michigan, won top honors at Life Care's awards banquet during the annual management meeting Monday evening. Mountz received the Chairman's Award, the highest award available to an associate of Life Care, and Karamanos claimed the Carl W. Campbell Wind Beneath My Wings Award, which goes to the Company-Wide Volunteer of the Year.

Mountz received his crystal obelisk, symbolizing the award, from Bryan Cook, the Eastern Division vice president who nominated him, and Forrest L. Preston, chairman of Life Care. Karamanos had her crystal eagle, symbolic of the volunteer award, handed to her by Campbell himself.

The Division Support Award was won by Cami Baughman, rehab director for the Eastern Division. A President's Award of Merit went to Ellen Levinson, executive director of Life Care Center of Nashoba Valley, who has led her building to deficiency-free surveys eight out of the past nine years.

Other President's Awards were presented to Carol Cordan, executive director at Life Care Center of Columbia, South Carolina, and Becky Stocker, executive director of Life Care Center of Plano, in the Eastern Division; Carol Pritchett, executive director of Garden Terrace in Houston, Texas, Garden Terrace Associates; Roxanne Parks, director of reimbursement, and Jon Buchholz, vice president of the Plains Region, in the Heartland Division; Stan Murdoch, executive director of Life Care Center of Pueblo, and Patrick Raab, executive director of Heritage Park Care Center, in the Mountain States Division; Mary Haglund, business office manager at Life Care Center of Auburn, Massachusetts, and Kate O'Connor, vice president of the Patriot Region, in the Northeast Division; Jeron Walker, executive director of Life Care Center of Federal Way, and Joe Rudd, executive director of Life Care Center of Treasure Valley, in the Northwest Division; and James Gann, executive director of Payson Care Center, and Melanie Seamans, vice president of the Saguaro Region, in the Southwest Division.

Named Facility of the Year were Life Care Center of New Port Richey, Kim Smith, executive director, Eastern Division; Garden Terrace in Salt Lake City, Shawn Matheson, executive director, Garden Terrace Associates; Life Care Center of Omaha, Michelle Yosick, executive director, Heartland Division; Valley View Villa, Deborah Majors, executive director, Mountain States Division; Life Care Center of Raynham, Deborah Ready, executive director, Northeast Division; Cascade Park Care Center, Skip McDonald, regional vice president; Northwest Division; and Life Care Center of Las Vegas, Mark Krueger, executive director; Southwest Division.

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The Bridge at Life Care Center of Greeley, Colorado, where Mindy Rickard is general manager, was honored as the Assisted Living Facility of the Year by American Lifestyles. Cherry Creek Retirement Village in Colorado, where Arletta Bourne is general manager, won American Lifestyles' Independent Living Facility of the Year.

Superior Performance Awards (for deficiency-free surveys) were given to Life Care Center of New Market, Virginia; Angela Kohl, executive director; The Lane House in Indiana, Yvonne Nowak, executive director; Parkview Care Center in Indiana, Connie Kirwer, executive director; Life Care Center of Nashoba Valley, Massachusetts; Ellen Levinson, executive director; Life Care Center of San Luis, Colorado, Carol Riggenschach, executive director; Evergreen Nursing Home, Colorado, Barbara Fransen, executive director; Cascade Park Care Center, Washington; Skip McDonald, regional vice president; and Garden Terrace in Utah, Shawn Matheson, executive director.

Ashlee Miller, who volunteers at Life Care Center of Jefferson City, Tennessee, where Laura Branam is the executive director, won the Company-Wide Youth Volunteer of the Year Award, and the Women's Missionary Union of Elkhorn City Baptist Church in Kentucky, won the Company-Wide Volunteer Group of the Year for their contributions to Mountain View Health Care Center, where Sharon Hall is executive director.

Congratulations to all the winners -- and their associates -- for earning such prestigious awards.

--Beecher Hunter