

Willingham, Kelley Honored



Nina Willingham

Life Care bestowed its highest honors this week on Nina Willingham, senior executive director of Life Care Center of Sarasota, Fla., and Frances (Ginger) Virginia Kelley, a volunteer from Life Care Center of Morristown, Tenn.

Willingham was presented the Chairman's Award, the top recognition for a Life Care associate, and Kelley received the Carl W. Campbell Wind Beneath My Wings Award, the superlative tribute accorded by the company.

In 2003 and 2004, Willingham's facility was named as one of America's top nursing homes. It received the American Health Care Association Bronze Quality Award in 2004, the first in Life Care to be so honored. It is the recipient of the Joint Commission's Ernest A. Codman Award for performance measures in end-of-life care. Willingham developed the Butterflies Are Free program adapted by Life Care to provide comfort through palliative care and individualized attention for residents at or near the end of their lives.

Life Care Center of Sarasota was honored in "Nursing Homes Magazine" with the Optima Award for program excellence for end-of-life care in 2005, and received the American Health Care Silver Quality Award this year – the only Life Care facility to achieve this honor.

Kelley edits the newsletter at Life Care Center of Morristown to keep residents, families and the community informed of news and activities each month. She created the Picture Perfect Program, a photography activity that captures photo memories of facility events. She mentors volunteers to ensure they have a positive experience, no matter what their age or background.



Ginger Kelley

Named Facility of the Year were Life Care Center of Crossville, Tenn., Eastern Division; Life Care Center of Wichita, Kan., Heartland Division; Life Care Center of Greeley, Colo., Mountain States Division; Rivergate Terrace in Riverview, Mich., Northeast Division; Life Care Center of Lewiston, Idaho, Northwest Division; Life Care Center of Winter Haven, Fla., Southeast Division; and Rimrock Villa Convalescent Hospital in Barstow, Calif., Southwest Division.

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President's Awards were received by Robert Breeden, executive director of the Heritage Center in Morristown, Tenn., and Wallace Stutts, executive director of Life Care Center of Athens, Tenn., Eastern Division; Lori Moberly, executive director of Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Paducah, Ky., and Travis Hecht, executive director of Life Care Center of Seneca, Kan., Heartland Division; Lea Wong, executive director of Life Care Center of Kona in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, and Debra Welker, executive director of Life Care Center of



Travis Hillis

Colorado Springs, Colo., Mountain States Division; Joe Andrade, food services director at Life Care Center of Attleboro, Mass., and Cathy Korske, activities director at Life Care Center of Raynham, Mass., Northeast Division; Dan Knapp; executive director of Life Care Center of Lewiston, Idaho, and Raymond Thompson, executive director of Life Care Center of Port Orchard, Wash., Northwest Division; Darelyn Talbott, division controller, and Janice Cericola, executive director of Life Care Center of Ocala, Fla., Southeast Division; Deedee Ramon, executive director of Life Care Center of Paradise Valley in Phoenix, Ariz., and Mabelle Harris, executive director of Life Care Center of Reno, Nev., Southwest Division.

The Division Support awards went to Travis Hillis, regional director of sales and marketing in the Eastern Division, and Amy Jarman, division director of human resources in the Northwest Division.

Superior Performance awards (for earning deficiency-free surveys) were received by The Lane House in Crawfordsville, Ind., Life Care Center of Merrimack Valley in North Billerica, Mass., Life Care Center of Nashoba Valley in Littleton, Mass., Valley West Health Care Center in Eugene, Ore., and Mountain View Care Center in Tucson, Ariz.



Amy Jarman

Youth Volunteer of the Year is Greg Stuart, Life Care Center of Pueblo, Colo. Volunteer Group of the Year is Brainerd Baptist Church, giving time at Life Care Center of East Ridge, Tenn.

We congratulate all of our award winners – and extend our deep appreciation for performance excellence.

– Beecher Hunter