

Del Callaway Administrative Excellence Award Winners

The award recognizes a long-term care administrator who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and mentoring while advancing patient care and enhancing quality. Recipients of the Administrative Excellence Award are selected by the previous winners of the award.

2021

Erika Castile Torrey Pines Senior Living San Diego



With 20 years in long-term care, Erika serves as the administrator of a 45-bed post-acute and executive director of a 100-bed assisted living and memory care facility. During her tenure, she navigated Torrey Pines from a 2-Star facility to a Five-Star operation by building a culture of caring among her co-workers, residents and families. During COVID-19, Erika worked with her team to put an aggressive infection control program in place. As a result, they were COVID-free for nine months. Erika loves senior care, and it shows in her attitude and smile. She had taken time to develop other leaders and is invested in helping to share the future of long-term care through advocacy efforts. Erika has a bachelor's and master's degree in Gerontology and serves as the San Diego

Chapter President. She has completed the AHCA Future Leader program and was recently appointed by the Governor to the California Commission on Aging. Erika's commitment to her staff, genuine care for residents and families and her ability to engage and advocate for the profession are a perfect trifecta for administrative excellence.

2020

Posthumous Award - Bart Vanderwall Pacific Gardens Nursing Center Fresno



Bart was a servant-leader who worked at Pacific Gardens for 22 years. Throughout his career, he was dedicated to twin goals – excellence and quality. During his tenure, his leadership team won numerous company awards – including the top award for overall excellence. The facility was also awarded the AHCA Bronze and Silver National Quality Awards. As a flagship facility for Covenant Care, Pacific Gardens received multiple innovation awards under Bart's leadership. His team conducted pilot programs for the company to test new approaches to improve resident care. Bart was a patient advocate and passionate about caring for the elderly. He demanded the highest quality from his co-workers and at the same time was fiercely loyal to his staff. He was a motivator, bringing encouragement and positivity into everything he pursued. Bart's approach to his work represented the gold standard for administrators. His integrity and pursuit of quality helped make a difference in the lives of his residents and staff. As we mourn his untimely death, we also celebrate Bart's legacy of clinical and operational excellence and his lasting example of selfless leadership

2019

Rosemary Campos Kilby

2018

Phylene Sunga

2017

Leslie Cotham

2016

Linda Lindsey

2015

Lucille Epperson

2014

Corey Wright

2013

DeAnn Walters

2012

Deborah Davis

2011

Lori Cooper