

Distinguished Service Award Winners

The CAHF Distinguished Service Award recognizes individual members who have demonstrated an exceptional ongoing commitment to the goals of the California Association of Health Facilities (CAHF). This award is given annually to members who exhibit an understanding of the long-term care profession and the challenges it faces, while fostering the highest professional ideals.

PREVIOUS WINNERS



2023

Allan Engelauf

For more than 15 years, Allan Engelauf has dedicated his career to the long-term care sector. Serving in multiple roles, he's currently Executive Vice President for Vista Pacifica Enterprises and Nursing Home Administrator for Vista Pacifica Convalescent. During his time with Vista Pacifica Enterprises, two facilities – Vista Pacifica Center and Vista Pacifica Convalescent – earned a combined total of four American Health Care Association Bronze – Commitment to Quality Awards and Silver – Commitment to Quality Awards, culminating in the American Health Care Association's prestigious Gold – Excellence in Quality Award in 2019.



Patti Garibaldi

Patti Garibaldi is helping shape the future of long-term care. Since 1997, she has been director of clinical consulting for Consonus Healthcare. With more than 30 years of nursing experience, she is nationally recognized for long-term care training. Garibaldi has been teaching QCHF's Director of Nurses/Nurse Leadership Seminar for many years, even playing a role in the development of the curriculum. Additionally, Garibaldi has been on the Nurses Council since 2007.

2022

Margarita Kechichian

Since 2013, Margarita Kechichian has been the Executive Director of the Ararat Nursing Facility (Ararat) in Mission Hills. In 2017, she further expanded her leadership skills by completing CAHF's Nursing Home Leader Academy. Featuring Kechichian and Ararat, a short documentary film called, "Closed Doors, Open Hearts: Nursing Homes and COVID-19," provided an intimate look at the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic and the tireless efforts to keep residents and caregivers safe. Under her guidance, the facility has received multiple awards from CAHF and the American Health Care Association.



Mark Payne

Mark Payne plays a pivotal role behind the scenes in CAHF's partnership with HPSI. Currently, Payne works with both the Sacramento and Sierra Chapters. Additionally, since 2018, Payne has been the convention committee chair. Always willing to help, he continually goes above and beyond by taking on a multitude of tasks that someone in a leadership role might otherwise delegate to their team.

Payne approaches every request with a smile and a desire to help others.



PREVIOUS WINNERS

2021

Lori Cooper

As a former administrator at Stonebrook Healthcare in Concord, Lori and her team obtained the state's first AHCA Gold, Excellence in Programming Award. Lori is a licensed administrator in three states and has served on numerous CAHF committee's and leadership position culminating with her service as Chair of the Board of Directors.



Ron Wall

With more than 30 years of experience in long term care, Ron has been a program director, administrator, corporate consultant and owner. He serves as the vice chair of the CAHF Political Action Committee and has been a long-time participant in the Public Advocacy Committee. Ron is an active participant in association political activities and a generous supporter of CAHF.



2019

Bill Wilson

Regular attendees of CAHF's Legal Series or members who attend sessions on elder abuse, fraud or arbitration have been on the receiving end of valuable legal insights from Bill Wilson. A partner in the law firm Wilson Getty, Bill is a frequent lecturer at CAHF conferences, sharing stories and advice about legal challenges facing providers. He has successfully defended a number of CAHF members and long-term care clients against civil liability claims. Bill has been an active member of the CAHF Legal Subcommittee and a relentless supporter of the association.



Nanci Wilson

Nanci brings energy and passion to every position she holds. Nanci is a licensed physical therapist and clinical instructor, an RCFE and Home Care Administrator, and board certified in wound management. She was responsible for 32 facilities at North American as Vice President of Rehab Services, but Nanci has spent much of the latter part of her career at Plum Healthcare. As director of Rehab Services or as VP for Research and Development, Nanci has used her skills to create focus and vision in areas of clinical and financial compliance. Lately, she has been instrumental in helping providers understand the new PDPM payment model. She remains an active member of CAHF's Government Relations and Strategic Planning committees.

ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS WINNERS

2018 Julianne Williams
 Kevin Lawrence

2017 Rosemary Campos Kilby
 Terry Sheets

2016 Leslie Cotham
 Christine Wilson

2015 Eric Burger
 Clay Green
 Dr. Karl Steinberg

2014 Deanna Hill
 Jennifer Sprow
 Matthew Steinorth
 Mark Uranga

2013 Mark Argabright
 Carol Burger
 Becky Joseph
 Sharolyn Kriger
 Michael Raffee

2012 Frances Foy
 Linda Mullany
 Rose Tupaz
 Mike Uranga
 Marcy Woolpert
 Matt Yarwood

2011 Russell Boydston
 Cheryl Jumonville
 Cheryl Loflin-Wertz
 Joe Miceli

2011 Maricela Santana
(cont.) Lee Sommars

2010 Deborah Davis-White
 Tiffany Karlin
 Michael Mamot
 Juanita Rettinghaus
 Brett Watson
 Larry Zweigle

2009 Corine Bernard
 Scott Carlson
 Mike Dodge
 Velvet Mayes
 Richard Mendlen
 Scott Tarde
 Robert Taylor

2008 Al Braswell
 Daniel Cipponeri
 Ron Dodgen
 Debra Friedman
 A. Eduardo Gonzalez
 Ed Long
 Scott Kiepen
 Tracie Murray

2007 Fran Abdou
 Terry Bane
 Mark Johnson
 Dan Murray

2006 Jill Capella
 Sue Curfman
 Mike Cutchshaw

ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS WINNERS

2006
(cont.)

Mike Leznik
James Napoli
Marianne Schultz
Kennon Shea
Phil Sullivan
Rebecca Turner

2005

Calvin Callaway
Dorothy Haemer
Mark Reagan
Elizabeth Plott Tyler

2004

Beth Brizee
Gary Collins
William Cloonan
Steve Flood
Adelle Leber
Roland Rapp
Joanne Van Dyke

2003

Rhonda Anderson
Richard Evatz
Holly Johnson
Carole Lillis
Dawn Martin
Johana Martz
William Schifferli

2002

Berry Crow
Lucille Epperson
Juliana Glydon
Richard MacFarlane
Terry Mundy
Tom Turner

2001

Jane Berk
Renate Fassbender
Marilyn Groves
Jan Harshman
Jim Koontz
Deborah Portela
Eric Schaffer
Aaron Straus

2000

Jim Bursey
Sandra Haskins
Georgia Otterson
Jon Pasqua
Regina Scott
Carol Van Horst
Corey Wright

ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS WINNERS

Helen D. Anderson
Mary Baker
Robert Bates
Harold Becker
Bruce Bennett
Mary Berndt
Marjorie Blanchard
Jolana Borlaug
Jack Boyson
Juanita Boyson
Brigitta Braswell
Ruth Braswell
Rachyl Bruton
Rodger Caddell
Josephine Carrigan
Kenneth Cess
Ben Cipponeri
James Cook
Richard Feingold
Jean K. Filer
Mary Ellen Forrest
Ann Gaal
Mary E. Granneman
Marise Goetzl
Ezekiel B. Griffin Jr.
Richard Hauser
Tom Heath
Richard Hebbel
Ken Heffel
Blaine Hendrickson
Wiland Henry
Victoria Hibarger
Gail Horrigan
Jim Livermore
Sam Macomber

Jack Markovitz
Dennis Mattson
Charles McClain
Jeanne McClain
Robert Miller
Charles Monedero
Robert J. Myers
Loretta Myers
Ron O'Haver
Gene Rapp
Sally Rapp
Mary Roberts
Ruby Shields
Gladys Straus
Margaret Timberlake
Carol Wagner
Jeanne Weizoerick
Jerry Wells
Esther Williams
Ritchie Wills