

# Facility Super Star Award Winners

The Facility Super Star Awards recognizes employees of CAHF member facilities who have 20 or more years of service and have dedicated their lives to long-term care. The top 20 nominees are selected by CAHF's Board of Directors to receive the award and attend the awards ceremony.

# 2024



**Elizabeth Calascan**  
**CNA**

**Long Beach Care Center, Inc.**

**25 Years in Long-Term Care**

After immigrating from the Philippines in 1997, Elizabeth quickly overcame language and cultural barriers to begin her career as a CNA. Even with a business degree, she chose to continue her work in the long-term care sector because of the meaningful connections she formed with her family of residents. For more than 25 years, her gentle approach and strong work ethic have earned her the admiration of both her colleagues and those she cares for at Long Beach Care Center.



**Elmarie Cosmiano**  
**CNA**

**Centinela Grand, Inc.**

**21 Years in Long-Term Care**

Known for her friendly demeanor, teamwork, and exceptional customer service, Elmarie inspires her peers with her devotion, positive attitude, and tireless perseverance to excellent quality care. Migrating from the Philippines in 2000, Elmarie pursued a nursing career, believing in the profound impact superior care and support can have on patients' lives. Always anticipating her residents' needs, Elmarie truly embodies the spirit of a Super Star.



**Lilia Devera**  
**LVN**

**Fairmont Rehabilitation**

**34 Years in Long-Term Care**

Committed to providing the best patient experience possible, Lilia has spent the majority of her adult life compassionately tending to the needs of elderly residents. For 34-years, she has served as a LVN at Fairmont Rehabilitation, the same place where she started her career. Known for the exceptional care she provides, Lilia is highly regarded by doctors in the community. Now, Lilia's daughter continues the family tradition by working at Fairmont as a LVN.



**Nick Duran**

**Plant Operations Manager/Maintenance Supervisor**  
**Pacific Haven Subacute & Healthcare Center**

**32 Years in Long-Term Care**

Playing a crucial role in the success of Pacific Haven Subacute and Health Center, Nick's devotion to safety, both for residents and the facility is unmatched. His meticulous maintenance of logs, and his team's readiness for surveys demonstrates his exceptional reliability and leadership. These qualities, along with Nick's tireless dedication, puts him on a level that his colleagues aspire toward.



**Belinda Fernandez**

**Dir. of Staff Development, Infection Prevention, LVN/LPN, and Staffing Coordinator**  
**Yuba City Post-Acute of PACS**

**27 Years in Long-Term Care**

Belinda is a kind-hearted and dedicated professional with more than 27-years of service in long-term care ...all at Yuba City Post-Acute of PACS. Her expertise spans multiple areas of the skilled nursing facility, making her the go-to person for patience, audits, surveys, and staff training. Belinda's genuine care for residents and staff is evident in her actions, from buying clothes for patients to organizing events. Her trusted leadership, selflessness, and constant commitment are respected and appreciated by everyone she meets.

# 2024



**Maria Garcia**  
**CNA**

**43 Years in Long-Term Care**

**San Pablo Healthcare & Wellness Center**

For 43 years, Maria has been a dedicated CNA at San Pablo Healthcare and Wellness Center. She embodies the true spirit of caregiving. In fact, despite offers from acute hospitals, Maria's passion for helping people is the number one reason why she's devoted to her role. Maria's unwavering allegiance, bright personality, and cheerful demeanor make her an invaluable team member. At 73-years-old, she continues providing top-quality care, addressing every patient's needs with love and kindness.



**Nasly Gloria Gonzales**  
**Activities Asst./CNA**

**21 Years in Long-Term Care**

**Studebaker Healthcare Center**

Nasly, who goes by Gloria, has dedicated 21 years to serving the long-term care sector with steadfast dedication and a "can-do" attitude. Starting as a dietary aide, she quickly advanced through various roles, ultimately becoming a CNA in 2018. Gloria's vibrant spirit, attention to detail, and willingness to help have made her a crucial team member beloved by residents, staff, and families alike. Her journey is a testament to the enthusiasm she has for caregiving, and the profound impact on the lives she touches every day.



**Cheryll Jack**  
**CNA**

**26 Years in Long-Term Care**

**The Fountains Skilled Nursing**

A dedicated CNA with more than a quarter century of service at The Fountains Skilled Nursing, Cheryll personifies graciousness and dependability. Since immigrating from Guyana and earning her CNA certification in 1998, she has mentored countless CNAs, many of whom have advanced to become licensed nurses and department managers. Cheryll's nearly perfect attendance, joyful demeanor, and diligence to quality care have made her an inspirational figure.



**Dina Joseph**  
**Dietary Supervisor**

**37 Years in Long-Term Care**

**Mission Park Healthcare Center/PacifiCare Health Management**

Dina's proactive approach to meeting residents' dietary needs is truly remarkable. She ensures each resident's preferences are catered to, even going so far as to personally obtaining special items from the community. Her dedication goes beyond providing meals: she fosters happiness and contentment among residents through genuine care and understanding.



**Maribel Lee**  
**Lead CNA**

**39 Years in Long-Term Care**

**California Home for the Aged**

Starting as a housekeeping and laundry aide, Maribel worked her way up to lead CNA. Since 1991, she's been a member of the team at the California Home for the Aged, and is known for her unwavering drive, kindness, and thoughtful caregiving. Maribel's tireless energy, attention to detail, and genuine love for the residents sets her apart...making her an invaluable asset to her community.

# 2024



**Cynthia Medina**  
**Charge Nurse/Desk Nurse**  
**Watsonville Post Acute Center**

**44 Years in Long-Term Care**

For her entire career, Cynthia has given of herself to her colleagues and residents at Watsonville Post Acute Center. Starting as a CNA and advancing to a LVN, she's shown resilience by weathering many changes. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Cynthia adapted quickly to the fluid situation and was a dependable resource. Now, serving as a Desk Nurse, she trains new nurses by sharing her deep knowledge, and demonstrating her exemplary loyalty to the long-term care sector.



**Nellie Molina**  
**Personal Care Supervisor**  
**Palm Village Retirement Community**

**51 Years in Long-Term Care**

Starting as a nursing aide in 1973 at Palm Village Retirement Community, she became a care supervisor in 1995, where she continues to provide exceptional care to residents and staff alike. Nellie's kind-heartedness and willingness to help others have been her defining traits throughout her career. The remarkable service in meeting and exceeding the evolving needs of residents make her a true super star.



**Agueda Pacheco-Ledezma**  
**CNA**  
**Glendora Grand Inc.**

**24 Years in Long-Term Care**

Agueda's career in long-term care, including 23 years as a dedicated CNA at Glendora Grand, reflects her exceptional devotion to residents. Starting in the laundry department and working to become a CNA, with perseverance she overcame language barriers... passing her certification on the first try. Admired for her tender care and positive attitude, Agueda consistently goes above and beyond, earning the trust and respect of coworkers and residents alike.



**Lucille Quiroz**  
**Dir. of Medical Records**  
**Villa Del Rio**

**35 Years in Long-Term Care**

Every day, Lucille delivers more than is expected in her role as Director of Medical Records. Her background as a CNA has given her a deep understanding of the challenges in nursing, and she consistently offers support with a smile. A loyal team player, Lucille's loyalty shines through her personalized attention and willingness to help... always prioritizing residents' needs. Her strength and determination make her an inspiring role model in long-term care.



**Juanita Ramos**  
**LVN**  
**Pacific Villa, Inc.**

**48 Years in Long-Term Care**

After arriving in the United States in 1976, Juanita restarted her nursing career, progressing from CNA to Licensed Vocational Nurse in two years. With 38 years of service at Pacific Villa Incorporated, she is known for her compassion and always putting her patients first. Even during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, she never missed a day of work. Her work ethic, loyalty, and willingness to give of herself are just some of the qualities that make Juanita special.



# 2024



**Maria Serpa**  
**CNA**

**Sunnyside Rehab of Fresno**

With unfaltering loyalty, Maria has served her residents with compassion and dedication at Sunnyside Rehab of Fresno. Her loyalty and commitment to providing exceptional care throughout the years exemplify her sense of responsibility and love for her work. Maria continues to deliver the same level care today...as when she first started in 1990.

**35 Years in Long-Term Care**



**Jose Turcios**  
**Housekeeper**  
**Flower Villa, Inc.**

Over the course of four decades, Jose's outstanding professionalism and work ethic have continually been admired by residents and colleagues. His attention to providing quality care makes a lasting impact on anyone he comes in contact with. Taking immense pride in his performance, Jose consistently fosters a positive environment through his abundant passion and enthusiasm in his work.

**40 Years in Long-Term Care**



**Dorcas Uwakwe**  
**CNA**  
**Century Villa**

A hardworking and kind-hearted CNA, Dorcas always ensures her residents are clean, comfortable, and well-cared for. Loved by residents and respected by peers, she possesses the characteristics of an ideal caregiver. Dorcas's punctuality, teamwork and willingness to mentor new CNAs, prominently showcase her leadership and positive outlook.

**36 Years in Long-Term Care**



**Maria Graciela Valencia**  
**Payroll Administrator/Accounts Payable Clerk**  
**Watsonville Nursing Center**

Maria... or Grace, as she's known by those close to her, started as a receptionist. Over the years, she advanced through various business roles until she reached her current position of Payroll Administrator and Accounts Payable Clerk. Her job title extends beyond her duties: she's willing to lend a hand with facility operations, employee safety, and resident activities. It doesn't matter which job she's doing, Grace takes pride in knowing every employee... and being accessible to all. Her consistent engagement, dedication, and leadership make her an indispensable part of the facility, beloved by both staff and residents alike.

**36 Years in Long-Term Care**



**Victor Zamorano**  
**Activity Assistant**  
**Villa Siena**

With a cheerful attitude, Victor plays a vital role in providing meaningful activities for residents as well as ensures their comfort during outings and appointments. Known for his attentiveness and willingness to assist across departments, Victor exemplifies teamwork and resident-centered care. He ensures residents feel valued and supported... making him indispensable. Whether it's the residents or his peers, Victor enriches everyone's lives.

**22 Years in Long-Term Care**

# 2023

**Marilou Anurelio**

Certified Nursing Assistant  
Long Beach Care Center, Inc.

**Maria Bravo**

Certified Nursing Assistant  
Villa Del Rio, Inc.

**Eric Celaya**

Restorative Nursing Assistant  
Mountain Manor Senior Residence

**Alejandro Iriate**

Cook  
New Vista Nursing and Rehab Center

**Pier Jackson**

Dir. of Staff Development  
Vista Pacifica Convalescent

**Carol King**

Certified Nursing Assistant  
Sunnyside Rehab of Fresno

**Juan Lopez**

Dietary Aide  
Century Villa

**Cherryl Martinez**

Health Information Dept. Director  
Torrance Care Center West

**Dorothy Nanac**

Dietary Cook  
Flower Villa

**Yolanda Payne**

Dir. of Respiratory Therapy  
New Vista Post Acute Care Center

**Tuba Rahmani**

Dir. of Medical Records  
Vista Pacifica Center

**Editha Rana**

Licensed Vocational Nurse  
NorthPointe Healthcare Center

**Kimberlee Reusser-Trautman**

Asst. Business Manager  
The Fountains Skilled Nursing and Rehab

**Lourdes Richardson**

Unit Assistant  
County of San Diego - Edgemoor Hospital

**Lupe Salgado**

Laundry  
Pacific Villa, Inc.

**Kongmany Sirixay**

Human Resources  
Pacific Haven Subacute & Healthcare Center

**Ernestina Soares**

Director of Medical Records  
English Oaks - Generation Healthcare

**Lila Southern**

Dietary Services Supervisor  
Centinela Grand

**Lito Suyat**

Certified Nursing Assistant  
Glendora Grand Inc.

**Wendy Vaught**

RNA/CNA  
Folsom Care Center

# 2022

**Lynnelle Fothergill**

LVN  
Folsom Care Center,  
Folsom

**Judith Galope**

LVN  
Glendora Grand, Glendora

**Senait Geletu**

CNA  
Flower Villa, Los Angeles

**Janet Jackson**

CNA  
Long Beach Care Center,  
Long Beach

**Mario Hernandez**

Maintenance, Laundry &  
Housekeeping Supervisor  
Villa Del Rio, Bell Gardens

**Vanessa Le**

Business Office Manager  
Sea Cliff Healthcare,  
Huntington Beach

**Joann Minor**

CNA  
Pacific Villa, Long Beach

**Veena Mukhram**

CNA  
Generations Healthcare,  
Modesto

**Corazon Oades**

Treatment Nurse/Charge Nurse/LVN  
Torrance Care Center West

**Evelyn Ongos**

Dietary Supervisor  
Linda Valley Center, Loma Linda

**Divina Otto**

LVN  
Edgemoor Hospital DP SNF,  
Santee

**Juana Rivas**

CNA  
Cupertino Health and Wellness

**Laura Rivera**

LVN  
Centinela Grand, Perris

**Aurelia Samiano**

CNA  
Miracle Mile Healthcare Center,  
Los Angeles

**Violet Washburn**

RNA/CNA  
Oroville Hospital Post-Acute Center

# 2019

**Aquilina Abris**

Activities Assistant  
Glendora Grand, Glendora

**Arturo Alcantar**

Groundskeeper  
Villa Del Rio, Bell Gardens

**Lisa Baiza**

RNA/CNA  
Willow Pass Healthcare Center, Concord

**Mirna Bustamante**

CNA  
Del Rio Gardens Care Center, Bell Gardens

**Edward Co**

CNA  
Torrance Care Center West, Torrance

**Lydia Contemprato**

Licensed Vocational Nurse  
Edgemoor DP SNF, Santee

**Glenn Della**

RNA/CNA  
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

**Maria "Lucy" Espindola**

Dietary Manager  
Lone Tree Convalescent Hospital, Antioch

**Dora Franklin**

Housekeeper  
Pacific Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation  
Center, Fresno

**Carmen Lopez**

CNA  
West Hills Health & Rehab, Canoga Park

**Jennifer Mares**

Licensed Vocational Nurse - Posthumous  
Award  
Veterans Home of California, Fresno

**Maryse Henriette Montes Luceus**

CNA  
Rancho Mesa Care Center, Alta Loma

**Debbie Messie**

CNA  
Silicon Valley Post Acute, San Jose

**Tony Sandoval**

CNA  
The Lake Post Acute, Visalia

**Ledy Semana**

CNA Team Leader  
Pacific Villa, Long Beach

**Becky Serrato**

Housekeeper  
Centinela Grand, Perris

**Cherie Stafsholt**

Director of Dietary Services  
Healthcare Center of Orange County, Buena  
Park

**Lorna Sypho**

Director of Medical Records/Activities  
Flower Villa, Los Angeles

**Angel Tiscareno**

CNA  
Alameda Care Center, Burbank

**Kelly Valish**

Marketing Director  
Marquis Shasta, Redding

**Matt Wray**

Director of Plant Operations  
English Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation,  
Modesto