

# Nurse of the Year Award Winners

The Nurse of the Year award is designed to recognize an outstanding registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse who has dedicated her or his professional career to the field of long-term care.

# PREVIOUS WINNERS

## 2019

### **Susan Yeranyan** **Ararat Nursing Facility** **Mission Hills**

Susan Yeranyan, RN, began her career in Armenia, as a biochemist with a degree from Yerevan State University. After migrating to the United States, she pursued her passion for healthcare by starting a career at Ararat Nursing Facility (ANF) as a certified nursing assistant. During her 25 years of employment at ANF, Susan climbed the career ladder and achieved her American Dream after her promotion to Director of Clinical Services in 2007. Susan is also a Certified Dementia Practitioner. She was the ANF Employee of the Year in 1996 and was recognized by the International Nurses Association for her excellence in nursing in 2019.

Under her leadership, Ararat Nursing Facility has consistently remained a Five-Star facility. It received the AHCA/NCAL Bronze and Silver Quality Awards in 2017 and 2018, respectively. The facility plans to apply for Gold level recognition in 2020.

Susan is a true nurse, at heart and in practice. She loves touching and changing people's lives, being hands on, as well as leading and educating the next generation of nurses.



## 2018

### **Merlyn Trinidad** **Edgemoor Hospital DP/SNF** **Santee**

Merlyn Trinidad has more than 25 years of nursing experience with 22 years in long-term care. Prior to becoming the director of nursing at the 192-bed Edgemoor Hospital DPSNF in Santee, she started as a staff nurse and advanced to become a supervisory nurse and assistant director of nursing. In her current role as director of nursing services, she oversees day-to-day nursing operations and manages more than 200 nurses and ancillaries at one of the largest facilities in the state while maintaining a Five-Star rating. In 2018, Merlyn received the Excellence in Administration award from the Philippine Nurses Association of San Diego County. In 2017, under her leadership, Edgemoor captured an AHCA Gold, Excellence in Quality award. Merlyn is also an active member of National Association of Directors of Nursing Administration (NADONA) and collaborates with other healthcare disciplines to ensure that each resident at Edgemoor receives the highest standard of care.



## ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS WINNERS

**2017** Roxan Vincent  
Vienna Nursing & Rehabilitation Center  
Lodi

**2016** Martha Leon  
Golden Living Center  
Sanger

**2015** Rosaline "Rose" Dorschner  
Vista Cove Care Center at San Gabriel  
San Gabriel

**2014** Shony del Pilar  
Southland Care Center  
Norwalk

**2013** Haya Berci  
Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer Medical Center,  
Reseda

**2012** Gloria Cervantes Reyes  
Shea Family Care  
Mission Hills

**2011** Debbie Wiechman  
Northern California Rehabilitation Hospital  
Redding

**2010** Kim Costello  
Hy-Lond Home  
Garden Grove

**2009** Sandra Lourido  
Kennon S. Shea & Associates  
Oceanside

**2008** Barbara DiFilippo  
Golden Living Center  
Fresno

**2007** Ann Folmer  
Beverly Living Center  
Sanger