

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.

After immigrating from the Philippines in 19-97, 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.

25 Years in Long-Term Care



Elmarie Cosmiano

CNA

Centinela Grand, Inc.

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 the year two-thousand, 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.

21 Years in Long-Term Care



Lilia Devera

LVN

Fairmont Rehabilitation

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.

34 Years in Long-Term Care



Nick Duran

Plant Operations Manager/Maintenance Supervisor

Pacific Haven Subacute & Healthcare Center

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.

32 Years in Long-Term Care



Belinda Fernandez

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

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.

27 Years in Long-Term Care

2024



Maria Garcia
CNA

43 Years in Long-Term Care

San Pablo Healthcare & Wellness Center

For 43 years, Maria has been a dedicated C-N-A 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

2018

Sharon Aleo

Director of Nursing
Windsor Post-Acute Center of Arvin,
Bakersfield

Eufemia Bone

Certified Nursing Assistant
Del Rio Gardens Center, Bell Gardens

Peggy Cantrell

Director of Social Services
Dycora Community Care, Fresno

Juana Castaneda

Payroll Clerk
Grant Cuesta Sub-Acute & Rehabilitation,
Mountain View

Arcelia Castillo

Certified Nursing Assistant
Dycora Transitional Health, Manchester

Francisca Cedano

Director of Social Services
Del Rio Convalescent Center, Bell Gardens

Elizabeth Dardon

Clinical Resource
Ensign Services, Mission Viejo

Rosa Guanizo

Certified Nursing Assistant
Glendora Grand, Glendora

Rosalind Hearne

Business Office Manager
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

Pluma Hobbs

Health Information Manager
Oroville Hospital Post Acute Center, Oroville

Evelia Meza

Certified Nursing Assistant
Torrance Care Center West, Torrance

Dianne Rice

Director of Business Development
Windsor Palms Care Center of Artesia, Artesia

Soledad Rodriguez

Certified Nursing Assistant
Santa Teresita Skilled Nursing Facility, Duarte

Cecilia Santiago

Cook
Pacific Villa, Long Beach

Monica Santos

Licensed Vocational Nurse
Dycora Transitional Health and Living, Fresno

Tavete Sitafine

Certified Nursing Assistant
Shoreline Care Center, Oxnard

Erlinda Soto

LVN Unit Supervisor
Pacific Coast Manor, Capitola

Patricia "Patti" Terry

Unit Assistant
Edgemoor Hospital DP/SNF, Santee

Elida Velasquez

Certified Nursing Assistant
Flower Villa, Los Angeles

Maribel "Mary" Velazquez

Employee Services/Payroll
English Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation, Modesto

2017

Matrise Austin

Director of Staff Development
Vineyard Hills Health Center, Templeton

Gonzalo Cabrera

Maintenance Assistant
Windsor Palms Care Center of Artesia, Artesia

Monica Carter

Medical Records Director
Centinela Grand, Perris

Marge DalBianco

Admissions Director
Creekside Center, Stockton

Petra "Petey" Duarte

Certified Nursing Assistant
Dycora Transitional Health and Living,
Manchester

Joy Fernandes

Restorative Nursing Assistant,
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

Teresita Gapuz

Staff Nurse/Registered Nurse
Edgemoor DP SNF, Santee

Maria Gomez

Dietary Assistant
Dycora Transitional Health and Living, Fresno

Cynthia Imperial

Director of Education and Infection Control
El Encanto Healthcare, City of Industry

Ramona Jessop

Activities Director
Harbor View Behavioral Health Center,
Long Beach

Lynette Johnson

Registered Nurse
Glendora Grand, Glendora

Sonja Kent

Nurse Educator
California Veterans Home, Shasta

Susan Macango

Director of Nursing
Carlsbad by the Sea, Oceanside

Sue Matagi

Licensed Vocational Nurse
Pacific Villa, Long Beach

Fabian Montebello

Assistant Dietary Supervisor
Villa Sienna, Mountain View

Maryse Henrietta Luceus Montes

Certified Nursing Assistant
Rancho Mesa Care Center, Alta Loma

Daniel Teffera

Assistant Director of Nursing
Century Villa, Ingelwood

Evadney Thomas

Certified Nursing Assistant
Flower Villa, Los Angeles

Darrell Thorne

Certified Nursing Assistant
Dycora Transitional Health and Living, Sanger

2016

Gloria Acosta

Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional
Glenridge Center, Glendale

Oswaldo Del Aguila

Director of Environmental Services
Windsor Gardens, Los Angeles

Chita Cabaya

LVN Charge Nurse
Centinela Grand, Perris

Gloria Castillo

Restorative Nursing Assistant
Windsor Gardens Healthcare Center of the
Valley, North Hollywood

Allison Dickson

Central Supply Designee
Las Flores Convalescent, Gardena

Helen Docena

Certified Nursing Assistant
Willow Pass Healthcare Center, Concord

Kelly Dykstra

Director of Environmental Services
English Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation, Modesto

Miguel Flores

Dietary Cook
Century Villa, Inglewood

Dina Gonzalez

Activity Assistant
Vineyard Hills Health Center, Templeton

Ernestina Hernandez

Certified Nursing Assistant
Kindred Nursing & Transitional Care,
Santa Cruz

Helen Herring

Treatment Nurse
Golden Living Center, Santa Rosa

Emma Lagoy

Ward Clerk
Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer Medical Center,
Reseda

Felicidad "Fely" Magsino

Certified Nursing Assistant
Glendora Grand, Glendora

Josephine Melendez

Cook
Sierra Vista Healthcare, Fresno

Barbara Olvera

Restorative Nursing Assistant
/Resident Care Specialist
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

Marina Quintero

Certified Nursing Assistant
Jewish Home for the Aging, Eisenberg Village,
Reseda

Alcadia Sarmiento

Certified Nursing Assistant
Torrance Care Center West, Torrance

Kim Strahl

Certified Nursing Assistant
Legacy Post-Acute Rehabilitation,
San Bernardino

Pam Walker

Business Office Manager
Edgemoor DP SNF, Santee

Sharon Zeno

Certified Nursing Assistant
Chaparral House, Berkeley

2015

Rudy Briseno

Maintenance Supervisor
Golden Living Center, Fresno

Ellie Dawkins

Respiratory Therapist
Granada Rehab & Wellness Center, Eureka

Christi Fain

Director of Dining Services
Golden Living Center, Shafter

Maria Faria

Staff Developer
Willow Creek Healthcare Center, Clovis

Betsabe Gil

Restorative Nursing Assistant
Torrance Care Center, West Torrance

Aurora Guevara

Certified Nursing Assistant
Pacific Villa, Long Beach

Sopheap Loch

Certified Nursing Assistant
Creskide Center Genesis, Stockton

Virginia Lorenzo

Certified Nursing Assistant
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

Lita Martinez

Assistant Director of Nursing
Vista Cove Care Center, Long Beach

Derrick Patterson

Directory of Dietary Services
Victoria Care Center, Ventura

Geraldine Perez

Social Services Director
Golden Living Center, Fowler

Sandra Petersen

Charge Nurse
Centinela Grand, Perris

Patricia Reis

Activity Director
Eureka Rehab & Wellness Center, Eureka

Rene Rosien

Activity Director
Glendora Grand, Glendora

Evelyn Stedman

Dietary Aide/Cook
Fortunate Rehab & Wellness Center, Fortuna

Steven Townsend

Licensed Vocational Nurse
Seaview Rehab & Wellness Center, Eureka

Matilde Uitz

Housekeeper
Century Villa, Inglewood

Sally Villarreal

Housekeeper
Villa Siena, Mountain View

2014

Abigail "Abby" Alvi

Director of Accounting Services
Riverside Health Care

Irma Basaldua

Administrative Service Director
Avalon Health Care, Merced

Angie Beeson

Certified Nursing Assistant Instructor/DSD
Eureka Rehab and Wellness Center, Eureka

Carol Bojorquez

Recreation Services Director/
Alzheimer's Care Assistant
Golden Living Center, Fresno

Jesus "Roberto" Carrillo-Lopez

Storeroom Clerk
Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer Medical Center,
Reseda

Eileen Castisimo

Assistant Administrator
Flower Villa, Los Angeles

Kanya Crews

Certified Nursing Assistant
Windsor Manor Rehabilitation Center,
Concord

Ivy Ferguson

Medical Records
Century Villa, Inglewood

Judie Garza

Business Office Manager
Windsor Palms Care Center of Artesia, Artesia

Haydee Hutton

Certified Nursing Assistant
Golden Empire Nursing & Rehab Center,
Grass Valley

Roberto Jimenez

Lead Cook
Windsor Gardens of Los Angeles, Los Angeles

Dora Martinez

Medical Records Director
Glendora Grand

Martina Martinez

Restorative Nursing Assistant
Jewish Home for the Aging, Grancell Village,
Reseda

Myrna Mendoza

Licensed Vocational Nurse
Long Beach Care Center, Long Beach

Betty Rothaus

Art Program Director
Reutlinger Community for Jewish Living,
Danville

Emma Soto

Ward Clerk Technician
Jewish Home for the Aging, Eisenberg Village,
Reseda

Shony Suankaew

Director of Social Services
Windsor Gardens Healthcare Center of the
Valley, North Hollywood

Ines Vargas

Housekeeper
Shea Family Care, La Jolla

Melecia Williams

Director of Staff Development
Granada Rehab & Wellness Center, Eureka

Chet Williams

Certified Nursing Assistant
Torrance Care Center West, Torrance