



ST. AUGUSTINE HEALTH CAMPUS
Continuing the Healing Ministry of Christ

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Page 1 of 2

NEWS RELEASE

St. Augustine Health Campus Receives Statewide Honors

(Cleveland, Ohio) **Colleen Wilson** of Avon Lake, Director of Nursing for St. Augustine Health Campus, Cleveland, was honored by AOPHA, the advocate of not-for-profit services for older Ohioans, with the ***Excellence in Leadership/Direct Care*** for her role in providing direct resident care. The award was presented last week at the Awards Celebration held during the AOPHA 2009 Annual Conference.

Awarded to an outstanding direct care professional at an AOPHA member organization, nominees must have supervisory responsibility and demonstrate a commitment to the employer, service to older Ohioans and engage as a role model and mentor.

As Director of Nursing since 2002, Wilson has led over 250 employees in one of the largest departments in one of the largest state nursing facilities in consistently producing resident and survey outcomes beyond expectation. She is renowned within St. Augustine for her willingness to tackle any project, whether covering a shift or simply grabbing a vacuum to clean a floor. Wilson also has an open door policy for employees and residents alike, often dispensing advice or lending a sympathetic ear over a cup of coffee.

"Caring for the residents is the number one mission of AOPHA members such as St. Augustine Health Campus," said AOPHA Professional Recognition Committee Chair Phil Braisted. "Colleen Wilson embodies the dedication to quality care that is the hallmark of our members, offering the highest quality service with an incredible touch of humanity. It is our honor to recognize her professionalism and dedication to her residents and our profession."

The ***Excellence in Service (Best Practice) for Nursing Facilities Award*** was given to St. Augustine Health Campus for displaying outstanding initiative, motivation and leadership in quality skilled nursing services through a unique camping experience.

Laura DeRose of Euclid, Director of Life Enrichment, accepted the award. She and a team of staff and volunteers overcame countless doubts and logistical issues as an inner-city

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Cleveland, OH 44102
216-634-7444; Fax 216-634-2717

Child Enrichment Center at
St. Augustine Manor
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facility with numerous residents who have varying disabilities in providing a resident-requested opportunity to take a vacation by going on a camping trip. After loading multiple vehicles with staff, supplies and eager campers, trips were taken to various camp locations for single and multiple day excursions. Residents planned meals and activities with staff, ensuring nutritional, medical and therapy needs were met. The excited ensuing tales shared with families and friends confirmed it was a treasured experience by the residents.

“Providing daily quality care and housing for residents, many with varying levels of disabilities, is a challenge for all AOPHA members,” said AOPHA Professional Recognition Committee Chair Phil Braisted. “Providing for an out-of-the-ordinary experience with a camping trip requiring massive planning and detail in meeting the special needs of all participating residents is truly a testament to the dedicated, mission-driven staff and supporters of St. Augustine Health Campus.”

The residents of 1South at St. Augustine Health Campus were awarded 2nd Place in the Northeast Region for their submission, “Bird Wing” Coop in the Resident Forum Art & Writing Competition.



Left to right: Laura DeRose, Director of Life Enrichment, Patrick Gareau, CEO/President, Colleen Wilson, Director of Nursing



Residents of St. Augustine Health Campus were awarded 2nd Place in the Northeast Region for their submission, “Bird Wing” Coop in the Resident Forum Art & Writing Competition.

Founded in 1937, AOPHA is a statewide association representing approximately 280 not-for-profit homes, health-related facilities and community services for the aging. Members are sponsored by religious, fraternal, labor, private and government organizations committed to providing quality services for their residents and for older persons in the community at large.

Since 1969, St. Augustine Health Campus has provided health care and related services to the area poor, chronically ill, frail elderly – many of whom would not receive care elsewhere. St. Augustine Health Campus serves people of all ages regardless of religion or financial status. In addition St. Augustine provides specialized care for those with traumatic brain injury, HIV/AIDS, MS, stroke and those in need of end-of-life care.

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