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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **LeadingAge New York Graduates 2015-2016 Class of IGNITE Leadership Academy**

### ***Helping to Train the Next Generation of Leaders in the NFP Senior Provider Field***

Latham, NY – LeadingAge New York is proud to announce the graduation of the 2015-2016 class of its IGNITE Leadership Academy, a year-long, transformational leadership program, providing tomorrow's leaders with the tools they will need to be outstanding leaders in their organizations.

During a graduation luncheon held at the LeadingAge New York Annual Conference and Exposition in Saratoga Springs, 20 rising stars in the aging services field received their certificates of completion after a year of personal leadership development during which they explored skills such as appreciative inquiry, active listening, values-based leadership, emotional intelligence and many other topics designed for personal leadership development and transformation. Session themes included: Exploring Our Authentic Leadership; Leading Change and Innovation; Collaboration and Partnership Building; and, Harnessing the Power of Full Engagement.

The IGNITE Leadership Academy differs from an MBA-type of program in that its focus is to teach participants how their own thinking and values are key components to developing their own qualities of leadership. In addition, they acquire the tools to help them work with teams, build successful teams and collaborate.

LeadingAge New York Board Chairwoman Emma Devito of Village Care in New York City congratulated the class of 2015-2016, and charged the graduates with a critical mission. "We are counting on you to bring passion and commitment to the field of long term care, to challenge and motivate, and to take an active role and to ensure that your voice is heard in order to enrich the lives of the people we serve."

The IGNITE Leadership Academy was established in 2013 through the dedication of a number of LeadingAge New York members who had attended the national affiliate's Leadership LeadingAge. They felt strongly that this valuable program was needed to inspire, nurture and empower leaders from New York's non-profit sector as they continuously strive to improve the exemplary care, services and housing provided to New York's growing aging population.

LeadingAge New York is the only statewide organization representing the entire continuum of not-for-profit, mission-driven, and public continuing care, including senior housing, nursing home, adult care facility, continuing care retirement community, assisted living, home care, and adult day care and community services providers. LeadingAge New York represents over 600 organizations dedicated to

expanding the world of possibilities for aging. We advance policies, promote practices and conduct research that supports, enables and empowers people to live fully as they age.

For more information on the LeadingAge New York Leadership Academy, please visit [www.leadingageny.org](http://www.leadingageny.org). For information about application contact Nancy Caban at [ncaban@leadingageny.org](mailto:ncaban@leadingageny.org) or 518-867-8383 extension 113.

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