



Heritage Ministries Management Company
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage Ministries Celebrates Employees at Annual Employee Recognition Dinner

[Jamestown, NY] – Recently, Heritage Ministries celebrated the longevity of its staff at the Annual Employee Recognition Dinner held at the Girl Scouts Service Center on Horton Road in Jamestown. In addition to honoring the longevity of service and the employees of the year, three people were individually recognized for their exceptional work for Heritage Ministries.

Each year, Heritage Ministries celebrates the dedication of its staff with a formal dinner. Those honored this year were celebrating their 5-, 10-, 15-, 20-, or 30-year anniversary with the organization. Eighty-nine employees reached one of these milestones this year and were honored at the dinner. These 89 employees represented 1,155 years of combined service to Heritage Ministries. Heritage Ministries employs nearly 800 employees in Chautauqua County. As such a large employer of this area's local talent, Heritage holds the annual Employee Recognition Dinner to distinguish and to appreciate this talent. Heritage Ministries is constantly striving to make sure that its employees feel valued.

In addition to the celebration of years of service to the organization, Heritage Ministries recognized three Employees of the Year at the dinner. The individuals were: Sara McKotch, representing Heritage Village Retirement Campus and Heritage Ministries Management Company; John Crawford, representing Heritage Park Rehab & Skilled Nursing; Diane O'Brien, representing Heritage Green Rehab & Skilled Nursing; and Kimberly Bruce, representing Heritage Village Rehab & Skilled Nursing. Also, three employees retired this year from Heritage Ministries: Judith Lewis and Anna Walker retired from the Heritage Park Rehab & Skilled Nursing facility. Loueva Farnham retired from the Heritage Green Rehab & Skilled Nursing facility.

In addition to the celebration of employees of the year and the retirements, Heritage acknowledged three individuals for exemplary service this year. The three individual awards that were given included: the MaryLou Clark Customer Service Award, the Leroy Lundgren Servant Leadership Award, and the Reverend Walter Fleming Chairman's Award.

The MaryLou Clark Customer Service Award was presented to Valerie Johnson, director of social work at Heritage Green Rehab & Skilled Nursing. The MaryLou Clark Customer Service Award is given to an individual who exemplifies the highest level of sustained excellence in

serving Heritage Ministries' internal and external customers. "Val is always finding ways to exceed expectations. ...(We) receive many compliments of how wonderful she is to work with, and how she helps the families of our East Wing (dementia care) residents," explained Val's nomination. Valerie is an individual whose example and consistent performance sets the highest standard of customer service to which any organization can aspire.

In addition to the customer service award, The Leroy L. Lundgren Servant Leadership Award was presented to a deserving employee during the recognition dinner. This award appreciates a supervisor who consistently displays the life of a humble, servant leader at work and in the community. This person also treats those he or she supervises with genuine respect. In addition to a great work ethic, this person shows a true commitment to the mission of Heritage Ministries and serves others above him- or herself. Maureen Winne, RN, nurse manager at Heritage Village Rehab & Skilled Nursing, was named the winner of the Leroy L. Lundgren Servant Leadership Award. Ms. Winne's nomination read, ""As a supervisor, Maureen is highly respected and loved by her staff. She is no pushover though, as she holds her staff accountable and runs a tight ship."

Finally, the Reverend Walter Fleming Chairman's Award was presented to Sherry McCarthy, resident attendant at Heritage Village Retirement Campus. The Reverend Walter Fleming Chairman's Award is bestowed upon an individual who embodies Heritage's Mission to serve others through Christ-centered ministries that Promote Hope, Dignity, and Purposeful Living. This person must also fulfill Heritage's Vision of becoming a trusted leader in the provision of human services that model God's love. Finally, this person must display all of the attributes of Heritage's Core Values, which are: Respect for human dignity; Excellence in everything we do; Acceptance of every person; Compassion for all; and Honesty above all else.

As illustrated by her nomination, "Sherry has been known to pray with a resident or to do something that seems small, but it makes a huge impact. She builds people up and truly has a place for campus (Heritage Village Retirement Campus). Sherry is also a Pastor's wife, so her work is never done." Sherry truly deserves the award.

The evening concluded with a nice reception and great weather for a celebration. Heritage Ministries congratulates all of the staff who made a difference throughout the organization this year. Heritage Ministries is a non-profit, human-service organization serving the western New York region. Independent- and assisted-living residences for seniors are located at Heritage Village Retirement Campus in Gerry and at The Woodlands in West Ellicott. Rehabilitation and skilled-nursing services are provided at Heritage Village in Gerry, Heritage Park in Jamestown, and Heritage Green in Greenhurst. For more information about Heritage Ministries, please call (716) 763-5608, visit at www.heritage1886.org, or LIKE Heritage at [facebook.com/HeritageMinistries](https://www.facebook.com/HeritageMinistries). Those looking for employment opportunities in the rewarding field of healthcare should apply online at heritage1886.org (click on the "Join Our Team" tab).

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