



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 25, 2009

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## **Palm Garden of Tampa Administrator Recognized for Outstanding Leadership, Providing Quality Care and Advocating on Behalf of Nursing Home Residents**

*Florida Health Care Association Recognizes Scott Allen as 2009 Administrator of the Year*

**Tallahassee, FL** - More than 600 long term care professionals from across Florida were on hand to applaud Scott Allen, administrator for Palm Garden of Tampa, as he was honored by the Florida Health Care Association (FHCA) as the 2009 *Administrator of the Year*. The award was presented by FHCA Secretary Scott Bell during the Association's Annual Conference in Hollywood and is the pinnacle of recognition for administrators in the long term care profession in Florida.

Allen has served as administrator of Palm Garden of Tampa for over seven years, during which time he has transformed the facility into a caring environment, where residents, their loved ones and the staff function as a family. He is known for inspiring his staff to develop and accomplish goals with an end result of providing the highest quality care to the residents. Under his leadership, Palm Garden was named Florida's first green facility and was recognized for both quality and satisfaction from the American Health Care Association and My InnerView, a national independent research firm.

During the event, Allen was also recognized as the Association's 2009 *Arthur H. Harris Government Services Award* recipient for his tremendous advocacy on behalf of nursing home residents. Allen actively participates in legislative affairs at both the state and federal level, regularly tours legislators in his facility to educate them about the work long term care providers do and is known for encouraging his staff to become engaged in grassroots activities and the legislative process.

"FHCA is pleased to honor Scott Allen with this prestigious award," said FHCA Executive Director Emmett Reed. "His leadership in the profession and dedication to the residents he serves makes him an excellent role model for other long term care professionals across the state."

Allen is also actively involved in FHCA, currently serving a second-year term as the Association's Treasurer and Legislative Committee Chair.

FHCA's Administrator of the Year Award is given annually to licensed nursing home administrator who shows true leadership qualities within the facility, is a trendsetter for other administrators and demonstrates a positive image in the community. The Arthur H. Harris Government Services Award is given to an FHCA member for demonstrating legislative support and advocacy on behalf of the long term care profession.

### **ABOUT THE FLORIDA HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION**

The Florida Health Care Association (FHCA) is a federation which serves nearly 1,000 members and represents over 500 long term care facilities that provide skilled nursing care, short-term rehab, assisted living and other services to the frail elderly and individuals with disabilities in Florida. FHCA was founded on the premise that its members have a moral obligation to the residents they serve, and since 1954 the Association has worked diligently to improve quality of care and quality of life for the state's growing elder care population. For more information about the Florida Health Care Association, visit [www.fhca.org](http://www.fhca.org).

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*Representing the Florida Long Term Care Community*

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