



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Orlando Long Term Care Professional Receives Statewide Honor for Commitment to Quality Nursing Home Care

Florida Health Care Association Recognizes David Sylvester of Health Central with Highest Honors

Tallahassee, FL - Florida Health Care Association's (FHCA) recently awarded Health Central Senior Vice President and President of Health Central Foundation, David Sylvester, with the Association's highest honor, *the Walter M. Johnson, Jr. Circle of Excellence Award*. The Circle of Excellence Award was recently presented to Sylvester in Hollywood earlier this month during a meeting of over 600 long term care professionals from across the state of Florida. The Award is given annually to a member of FHCA who has made significant contributions in the past year and has worked toward the growth and development of the Association through the years. Sylvester, FHCA President from 2006 to 2008, was recognized for his leadership and pursuit of advocating for the coexistence of funding, quality and customer satisfaction as the cornerstone of the long term care profession.

As a member of FHCA's Management Committee from 2000 through 2008 and current President of the Quality Credentialing Foundation, Sylvester has challenged health care professionals to embrace the continual process of quality improvement. His leadership in advocating for a fair and balanced system ensured providers had a voice when landmark nursing home legislation, Senate Bill 1202, was crafted and passed in 2001. Sylvester's platform since has been to ensure the coexistence of funding, quality and customer satisfaction. He shares his passion for the Association by helping FHCA cultivate future leaders and remains a strong advocate for the long term care profession.

The award was presented by 2008 *Circle of Excellence* recipient and FHCA Secretary, Scott Bell, who noted Sylvester's ability to lead by example and "encourage and inspire others to take action and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with their professional peers to not only react, but also reshape the ever-changing long term care environment."

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.

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Representing the Florida Long Term Care Community

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