



Accredited by
Community Health Accreditation Program,
the leader in home care accreditation



Contact: Sara Nelson-Veith
Communications Associate
856-273-4600
snelson-veith@bayada.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Nurse Recognized as Hero of the Year by Bayada Nurses

Lewisburg, PA – June 1, 2011 – Toni Kearns, a licensed practice nurse (LPN) for Bayada Nurses, a leading home health care provider, has been honored as the national LPN Hero of the Year award recipient. On Saturday, May 21, 2011, Bayada Nurses recognized Kearns for exemplifying the highest standards in her work at the company's annual conference held at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, PA. More than 1,600 Bayada Nurses employees attended from 18 states.

Kearns received this award as recognition for her absolute dedication and enthusiasm toward her clients at Bayada Nurses and for exemplifying excellence and the highest standards in her work every day.

"Toni has proved to be an exceptional nurse for our most high-risk clients," said Toni Shaffer, Kearns' clinical manager and one of her award nominators. "She has an excellent relationship with grieving families and is always a comfort to them, being in words or actions."

"One thing that is very obvious when you look at Toni's schedule is that she cares for several clients with a wide variety of needs and does so with great compassion and skill," shared Bayada Nurses Director Ruth Ann Kephart.

Currently, Kearns cares for Collin Jones, a 4-year-old boy who has greatly struggled with eating since birth. He developed failure to thrive—a condition causing poor physical growth due to minimal calorie intake.

"Toni is able to take the extremely difficult task of getting him to eat and turn it into a positive experience for him," said Collin's mother Paula. "Her approach is not only encouraging to him, but empowering. She cares for our son the way she would care for her own."

The award is part of Bayada Nurses Hero on the Home Front Program. Established in 1999, the award recognizes the company's field employees who consistently

demonstrate the company's core values. Their work epitomizes Bayada Nurses' mission of helping people have a safe home life with comfort, independence, and dignity by providing the highest quality home health care services available.

See how Kearns made a difference for the Jones family by viewing the "Toni Kearns, LPN Hero of the Year 2011" video at www.youtube.com/bayadanurses.

Founded in 1975 by J. Mark Baiada, Bayada Nurses provides nursing, rehabilitative, therapeutic, hospice, and personal home health care services to children, adults, and seniors in the comfort of their homes. Headquartered in Moorestown, NJ, Bayada Nurses employs more than 13,000 nurses, home health aides, therapists, and social workers who serve clients in 20 states from more than 190 offices. For more information, visit www.bayada.com or www.youtube.com/bayadanurses.

###