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**For Immediate Release**

**Bayada Nurses Honors its National Health Care ‘Heroes’**

June 19, 2009 – Mt. Laurel, NJ – Bayada Nurses, a national home health care company, has honored four of its employees as national health care ‘heroes.’ They were recognized as part of Bayada Nurses’ *Heroes on the Home Front Program* for their outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in serving their clients. The awards were presented at Bayada Nurses’ annual Awards Weekend, held in Washington, D.C. from June 5-7.

Bayada Nurses presents the “Hero of the Year” Awards to recognize its nurses, aides, and therapists who unselfishly exceed the organization’s expectations for excellence. To qualify, a nominee must embody the fundamental values of compassion, excellence, and reliability, which comprise *The Bayada Way* and define the organization’s mission.

Steven Conforti, a Physical Therapist from Phoenix, AZ who has worked for Bayada Nurses for four years, was recognized for his professionalism, expertise, and excellence in patient care. Clients have described Steve as considerate, caring, kind, and gentle. Steve’s special way was captured well by one client, who said, “You would never know he was a therapist because he had the attitude that you were just another good friend of his.”

George Kracke, a Licensed Practical Nurse in North Brunswick, NJ, has logged more than 30,000 hours of service and 12 years with Bayada Nurses, and was recognized for his clinical expertise and his genuine, caring nature. He is goodhearted and even participates in his clients’ extracurricular activities. One Halloween, George made matching biker costumes and decorated his client’s wheelchair to look like a

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motorcycle, and recently accompanied her to her school prom. The client's mother reported that George hasn't just made life better for her daughter, but "he's made life better for all of us."

Marjorie Smith-Gale, who has spent 14 years as a Registered Nurse with Bayada Nurses' Atlantic City, NJ office, was recognized for her clinical expertise, compassionate nature, and trustworthiness. The staff can trust Marjorie to handle any situation that may arise within any level of care. One young client's mother expressed being indebted to Marjorie "with gratitude beyond words" for her "life-changing" contributions to her son's care. Clients consider Marjorie part of the family, not just their nurse.

*Founded in 1975 by J. Mark Baiada, Bayada Nurses is an independently-owned home health agency that employs more than 12,000 nurses, home health aides, therapists and social workers in more than 140 offices and 18 states, as well as the UK. Bayada Nurses provides skilled, rehabilitative, therapeutic, personal care, and support services to people of all ages in the comfort of their own homes. For more information, visit [www.bayada.com](http://www.bayada.com).*