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Bayada Nurses Commemorates National Home Care Month

Moorestown, NJ – November 16, 2009 – It is a typical Monday afternoon in the home of 17-year old Donovan Evans. He performs his after-school chores, which include placing his dirty lunch dishes in the sink, throwing away the trash and then putting away his lunch box in the proper kitchen cabinet.

While these tasks seem simple, they are nothing short of extraordinary for Donovan. At the age of three, a traumatic brain injury left the little boy blind, unable to speak, and paralyzed throughout most of his body. He performs his chores with the help of Adele McCloskey, RN, a home care nurse who has spent every Monday with Donovan for over two years. She is one of more than 12,000 nurses, home health aides and therapists with Bayada Nurses who enable children and adults with chronic illness, injury or disabilities to live in the comfort and safety of their own home.

Each November, the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) celebrates these professionals during National Home Care Month.

“At Bayada Nurses, we believe that our clients come first and our employees are our greatest asset. I am thankful for our field employees. They are at the heart of the important work that we do. They deserve and receive our recognition and heartfelt appreciation not only during National Home Care Month, but each and every day of the year,” said Mark Baiada, founder and president of Bayada Nurses, a national home care company with 150 offices in 18 states and the UK.

McCall O’Shay, Donovan’s mother, could not agree more. “Of all of the gifts I have received from Bayada, the gift of peace is the one I cherish most,” she said. “I know that Donovan is safe in the experienced hands of those with the proper medical skills and training. He is genuinely loved by all of the nurses who work with him.”

At Bayada Nurses, home care services include skilled nurses who provide medication administration and treatments, and home health aides who assist with grooming, meal preparation and light house keeping. In addition, in-home rehabilitation by physical, occupational and speech therapists help people recover following an acute illness, injury or surgery.

According to NAHC, nearly 12 million Americans now rely on home health care. They range from children with profound physical and developmental disabilities, to adults and seniors with chronic illness and injury who need assistance to remain at home. In these difficult economic times, home care is providing thousands of new job opportunities for American workers. From 1993 to 2007, home care employment grew an average of 5.4 percent annually.

Bayada's growth mirrors this national trend. The company was recently listed as number 10 on Yahoo's list of the Top 100 companies in the country that are hiring. In 2008, Bayada Nurses hired over 9,000 field staff, including nurses, home health aides, physical therapists, occupational therapists and companions. As the company continues to grow, there will also be a need to fill positions in office management and administrative support, finance, marketing, information technology and human resources.

The growth in home care employment comes as 78 million Baby Boomers are nearing retirement. According to NAHC, as age increases, so does the incidence of conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, cancer and Alzheimer's disease. According to the Alliance for Home Health Quality and Innovation, early use of home care services following a hospital stay by a patient with at least one chronic disease saved Medicare \$1.71 billion in the two-year 2005-2006 period. In addition to the dramatic cost savings, the study found that patients who received home care soon after hospital discharge were less likely to be re-hospitalized, resulting in even more cost savings.

For more information on accessing Bayada Nurses home care services, or for employment opportunities, please call 1-888- 4BAYADA.

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 150 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.

