

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 24, 2014



FLOWER MOUND, Texas, February 24, 2014: Violeta Barboza, Life Engagement Manager at Autumn Leaves of Flower Mound, has been elected a Finalist in the Assisted Living Federation of America's (ALFA) 2014 Hero of the Year Award. Each year, the ALFA Hero Awards recognize individuals who are ideal representatives of the hundreds of thousands of people serving in senior living communities. Five winners will be selected from the pool of 15 finalists and will be announced at the 2014 ALFA Conference & Expo, held May 19-22 in Phoenix, Arizona.

“It’s nice to know that someone has noticed my work and appreciates it,” said Violeta. “I love my job, and especially the residents. When I see them smiling and waiting for me – that’s the best pay I can receive.” As Life Engagement Manager, Violeta enjoys leading cooking classes, trivia contests, sing-alongs and brain exercises. When the weather is good, she takes members of her “Sunshine Club” outside for a short walk. Having grown up in Venezuela with her grandparents in her home, Violeta says that her career is a natural fit.

“I owe to my parents the passion and love for my job,” she said. “My siblings and I grew up in a home where the elders were treated with respect and dignity and they were always cared for with lots of love and acceptance.”

“We might not be able to change many things in life, but we could certainly make a difference in the lives of our residents and their loved ones who have entrusted us with their care,” she added.

Violeta has been happily married for 32 years; she and her husband have one daughter, a surgical nurse RN, and a son who attends Arizona State University.

The ALFA Hero Awards are presented to senior living professionals “who through their extraordinarily unflagging commitment to the core values of senior living - choice, independence, dignity and quality of life - are creating a bright future for senior living in America,” according to ALFA’s website.

“The dedication and passion of all the big-hearted people who choose to serve seniors is a reason why resident-centered senior living is the fastest-growing long-term services

and support option in the United States,” said Rick Grimes, President and CEO of ALFA. “The high-quality, resident-focused care provided by these outstanding individuals and their communities is what our nation’s seniors need and deserve.”

ABOUT AUTUMN LEAVES

Family owned and operated, Autumn Leaves communities combine a warm, home-like environment with the highest quality memory care available. Specialized in every aspect, Autumn Leaves memory care residences are focused on meeting residents’ emotional, physical, social and nutritional needs in a home-like environment. With Autumn Leaves communities open or under construction in Houston, Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio, Chicagoland, Tulsa, Edmond, and Atlanta, we are growing at a smart, steady pace. For more information on Autumn Leaves, visit our website at www.AutumnLeaves.com or call our home office at (888) 662-8886.

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