



# Laura Cardillo, nursing director, receives national award



Meredith Krantz, Director Of Community Relations & Marketing, Avalon Assisted Living at Hillsborough 11:04 a.m. EST November 15, 2014

*Other accomplishments include her program for National Alzheimer's and Staff Education Week in February, which won a first place award for The Avalon at Hillsborough from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners.*



(Photo: PHOTO COURTESY OF AVALON ASSISTED LIVING AT HILLSBOROUGH)

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When you think of a nurse, what comes to mind? Most likely, it's an image of a competent, caring professional who is educated, highly skilled, and dedicated. This description, and more, perfectly fits Laura Cardillo, director of nursing at the Avalon Assisted Living Residence in Hillsborough since its opening in 2006.

A former resident of Bridgewater, Cardillo now resides in Hillsborough. A registered nurse for 23 years, she is also a certified dementia practitioner, certified validation worker, and Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group facilitator.

"I cannot see myself working anywhere else but in this type of environment," Cardillo said. "I treat all of the residents here like they are a family member, with the dignity and respect they deserve."

On Oct. 5, at the National Center for Assisted Living conference in National Harbor, Maryland, Cardillo was honored as Nurse of the Year. This program recognizes assisted living employees from around

the country who demonstrate exemplary work within the profession.

Other accomplishments include her program for National Alzheimer's and Staff Education Week in February, which won a first place award for The Avalon at Hillsborough from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. Cardillo organized a week of activities for employees, residents and family members, with

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speakers, interactive classes and a formal proclamation from the mayor.

In addition, Cardillo was chosen as a finalist as Nurse of the Year by for NJ Biz Healthcare Heroes program in June. This award honors individuals and organizations that are making a significant impact on the quality of health care in New Jersey.

"We are so proud of Laura and her accomplishments; this is a well-deserved award," said Don Pelligrino, owner /CEO of Bridgeway Senior Healthcare.

Family-owned and operated for more than 33 years, The Avalon and Bridgeway Care & Rehabilitation Center offer Memory Care Programs for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other memory impairments. For more information about the Avalon Assisted Living & Bridgeway Care & Rehabilitation Centers, visit [www.BridgewaySeniorCare.com](http://www.BridgewaySeniorCare.com)