



**Media Contact**

Janice Tyler, Director  
Department on Aging  
Phone: 919.245.4255  
[jtyler@orangecountync.gov](mailto:jtyler@orangecountync.gov)

Kim Lamon-Loperfido, Aging Transitions Administrator  
Orange County Department on Aging  
Phone: 919.245.4253  
[kloperfido@orangecountync.gov](mailto:kloperfido@orangecountync.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Orange County announces recipients of 2022 Direct Care Worker Outstanding Service Awards**

**ORANGE COUNTY, NC** (November 21, 2022)—Orange County Department on Aging and the Senior Health Advocacy and Resource Partners of Orange County (SHARP) honored thirty-eight individuals for their outstanding service in long-term care on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> during a hybrid Direct Care Worker Award ceremony.

This event recognizes direct care workers (nurse aides, personal care aides, companion caregivers, etc.) who served clients in Orange County within the past year, making a difference in their clients' lives on a daily basis and in the community.

Renee Price, Chair, Orange County Board of County Commissioners was on hand to congratulate the eleven agencies represented for their support and for acknowledging the hard work that their caregivers provide. Chair Price congratulated all honorees, stating that they are, "The unsung heroes of caregiving," and thanked them for, "positively impacting the lives of those they serve."

Bonnie Hammersley, Orange County Manager, recognized all thirty-eight nominees including six individuals who received the following 2022 SHARP Direct Care Worker awards:

**Longevity:** Tomilyn Miller – Carol Woods Retirement Community

**Rising Star:** Tylor Militello – Piedmont Health Services

**Client Impact:** Kansas Harris – Homewatch Caregivers of the Triangle

**Going the Extra Mile:** Aleini Alexandre – Independent Caregiver

**Leadership:** Cecilia Faucette-Ray – Home Instead

**Direct Care Worker of the Year:** Pamela Leak – Piedmont Health Senior Care: PACE Program

Employers of the award winners were also honored at the awards ceremony.

2022 SHARP Direct Care Worker awardee employers are as follows:

Aegis, Elite Health & Wellness, Inc., Carol Woods Retirement Community, Charles House Association, Homewatch Caregivers of the Triangle, Home Instead Senior Care, LiveWell Assisted Living, Piedmont Health, Piedmont Health Senior Care: PACE Premier Home Health Care Services, Right at Home of the Triangle, Transitions Life Care, Soltys Place, Trio Family Resources, and individual family caregivers.

Visit [Direct Care Worker Awards](#) or call 919.245.4253 to learn more and to view this year's awards ceremony.

###



**Photo caption:** 2022 Direct Care Worker of the Year, Pamela Leak of Piedmont Health Services PACE Program.