



NEWS RELEASE

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HCAOA Recognizes Caregiver of the Year, Legislative Advocate, and Home Care Leader at Record-Breaking Annual Conference

Industry Leaders Train and Encourage Attendees with Actionable Steps and Quality Connections

September 21, 2022 (ORLANDO, FL) – This weekend, over September 17 -19, the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) 2022 Annual Leadership Conference cast a vision for the future of home care, provided training and action steps for industry leaders and recognized three important individuals for their contribution to the home care industry to a record-breaking crowd.

Saturday featured a preconference focused exclusively on advocacy in and for the home care industry, centered around HCAOA's six policy priorities found in [The State of Home Care report](#). Multiple speakers offered perspective, ideas and actionable steps to attendees.

On Sunday, a record-breaking crowd of nearly 500 attendees applauded the work and dedication of [2022 Caregiver of the Year Katrice Turner](#) of Absolute Companion Care in Monkton, Maryland. Turner was selected as the top home caregiver in the country from more than 300 nominees from nearly all 50 states.

The Association recognized the diligent legislative advocacy work on behalf of the agency and members performed by Doug Robertson of Right at Home with the Allen Hager Legislative Award. Robertson's active, professional and influential approach to impacting policies and legislation significantly benefits HCAOA members and home care providers.

Jeff Wiberg of Family Resource Home Care received the Sheila McMackin Leadership Award for his exceptional leadership, dedication, and the untiring work of on behalf of HCAOA members and the home care industry. His service on the HCAOA Board of Directors and Education Committee provide an invaluable benefit to the industry.

Encouraging and challenging educational presentations by national and local home care industry leaders focused on the future of the industry, workforce development, recruitment, retention, the incorporation of technology, advocacy, legal considerations, payer information, the value of home care data collection, and more. Attendees networked with other leaders and vendors throughout the event.

At the Annual Business Meeting on Monday, September 19, HCAOA Board President Emma Dickison of Home Helpers Home Care recapped the significant accomplishments of the organization over the past 3 years—from education and support during COVID, to the establishment of a recommended Code of Conduct, actively advocating for the elevation and recognition of the value of home care, and identifying and focusing on the 6 policy priorities outlined in the [State of Home Care: Industry at a Crossroads report](#).

“The Home Care Association of America is in a strong season of growth—in membership, in future-focused priorities, and in the elevation of the home care industry. This year alone, we have welcomed

nearly 700 new members and affording us the privilege to represent more than 4,100 home care agencies across the nation who employ more than 1 million care professionals,” said Emma Dickison.

HCAOA CEO Vicki Hoak recognized Dickison’s years of service and leadership with a special plaque, then cast a vision for attendees.

“We now hear of others echoing, adopting and advocating for our six policy priorities of: establishing national standards of care, collecting and utilizing data to validate the value of home care, embedding home care in the healthcare ecosystem, elevating the profession of caregiving, financing care, and addressing immigration,” said Hoak. “The 2022 Annual Leadership Conference offered some of the best education, networking, vendors and engagement available today. Attendees left hopeful, yet challenged with specific steps to take in advocacy, data collection and elevating the importance of the industry. If not now, then when?”

The 2023 HCAOA Annual Leadership Conference will be held October 23-24, 2023 in Chicago, IL.

To learn more about the HCAOA Annual Leadership Conference, [click here](#) or review the [event program here](#).

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ABOUT HCAOA

Founded in 2002, the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) is the unified voice of the home care industry, strengthening our members through advocacy, education, and research. We represent more than 4,100 agencies that employ more than 1 million caregivers across the United States.