

# National Association of Health Care Assistants

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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## Oklahoma CNA Recognized with Prestigious Award During the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Key to Quality Awards Ceremony

**Washington, D.C. (2017)**—Gibbs Kennedy, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at Franciscan Villa – Post-Acute and Long-Term Care, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma is this year’s recipient of the Person Centered Care Award. Mr. Kennedy received this prestigious recognition during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual “Key to Quality” Awards Banquet at the Renaissance in downtown Washington, D.C. on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The Executive Director of Franciscan Villa, Susan Crimmins provided remarkable justification for Mr. Kennedy to receive this award in their nomination narrative, “Gibbs is an outstanding CNA in many ways as demonstrated by his true commitment to the elders that he cares for every day. Each resident, family member and co-worker is always treated with respect and dignity.” NAHCA’s awards nomination committee indicated that selecting Mr. Kennedy was a difficult task, only because there were nearly 250 nominations. Jeff Wellman, Chief Operating Officer, NAHCA has this to say of Mr. Kennedy, “It is my distinct privilege to oversee the selection process. Gibbs’ nomination stood out and after having spoken with him, it is easy to see why the committee selected him for this award. His comments and passion for person centered care are undeniable.”

The Person-Centered Care Award is given to a CNA or direct caregivers who have an excellent rapport with the residents and their families; they have the confidence of the resident’s family; caregivers who make residents and their family’s wish there were more caregivers like them. They treat families, as well as the resident with dignity and respect.

Gibbs Kennedy is one of 28 CNAs and other long-term care professionals recognized during the “Key to Quality” Awards Banquet. The vetting process for selection for these national level awards is rigorous and the awards recipients represent the best of the best in the Long-Term, Post-Acute, and Assisted Living. This year’s NAHCA’s annual conference brought together hundreds of professional caregivers from 26 different states. This two-day event combines; education, networking and recognition for the noble humanitarians that serve our nation’s frail and elder citizens.

*The National Association of Health Care Assistants (NAHCA) is a professional association of and for Certified Nursing Assistants and is a staff development partner for care centers across the nation. NAHCA elevates the professional standing and performance of caregivers through recognition, advocacy, education and empowerment while building strong alliances with health care providers to maximize success and quality care. For more information about NAHCA please visit their website at [www.nahcacareforce.org](http://www.nahcacareforce.org).*

*Franciscan Villa is 181 bed nursing facility and assisted living community on a serene 47-acre campus in Broken Arrow. Franciscan Villa’s stellar reputation over the last 36 years is based on a foundation of superior comprehensive care, exceptional recreational activities, fine dining, and a resident-centered approach. Franciscan Villa is not only a committed care provider, but also a place of worship. Our beautiful sanctuary and services are available to our residents and the community each day. Franciscan Villa is part of the Diakonos family of senior communities. For more information, see [www.FranciscanVilla.com](http://www.FranciscanVilla.com)*

*Diakonos Group is an award-winning Oklahoma owned and operated long-term care provider. It provides care at multiple locations across Oklahoma. Diakonos Group will open the Lodge at Brookline in Oklahoma City and Cross Timbers Nursing and Rehabilitation in Midwest City, Fall 2017 and, just opened the doors to Beacon Ridge – a skilled nursing facility in Sapulpa focused on serving Seniors with Mental Health needs. For more information about Diakonos Group, please visit their website at [www.DiakonosGroup.com](http://www.DiakonosGroup.com).*

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