

## *NH Veterans Home's Kimberly Michaud, BSW, Receives NHVH "Above and Beyond" Award.*



TILTON, NH – Kimberly Michaud, BSW, Social Worker Consultant at the NH Veterans Home (NHVH) in Tilton, has received the Home's "Above and Beyond" Award for June, 2009. The NHVH Above & Beyond Award was created to recognize employees who are committed to excellence and superior performance.

Kim has worked at the Veterans Home for four years. According to Melissa Milione, NHVH Human Resources Administrator, Kim was nominated by co-workers, who said: "She positively

identifies with the Mission of the Veterans Home and was a tremendous help during a three month transition in staffing. With an already full caseload, she provided coverage for additional residents and never complained. She's a real team player." Another of her colleagues added, "Kim is exactly what a Social Worker should be. She is there for residents and their families and helps facilitate a support group."

As a Social Worker Consultant Kim checks in with staff and residents daily. She keeps in touch with residents' families regularly and attends weekly interdisciplinary meetings to ensure the psychosocial well-being of the residents in her care. She performs weekly ongoing assessments of residents' moods, behaviors, and psychosocial issues. As part of the NHVH Social Work Team she meets with her colleagues weekly—or more often, when needed—to share knowledge of all residents' and/or family concerns in order to provide continuity during rotating weekend coverage.

Of her work at NHVH she says, "I feel blessed and honored to work for the Veterans Home. Our veterans protected us when we needed protection and as a Social Worker I feel it is my time and my duty to

protect them in their time of need. I feel true joy with the residents I serve. Working here allows me to share with the residents not only tears of joy and sorrow, but most importantly, laughter. The staff with whom I work are exceptional and they welcomed me as part of the team as soon as I started here. I consider the residents, their families, and staff as part of my extended family. It's because of this that I challenge myself every day to be a better person both professionally and personally."

Kim lives in Franklin with her husband, Sean; mother-in-law, Pauline; father-in-law, Ron; and dog, Brady. Originally from Waterbury, CT, she is very grateful to her parents, Donna and Tom Kyrzcz of Port Orange, FL and to her husband, Sean "for being my support system and positive role models." When she's not working, she enjoys spending time with friends and family, the outdoors, camping, boating, hiking, and listening to music.

Kim Michaud is one of nearly 400 staff members at the New Hampshire Veterans Home, established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans. One of just four New Hampshire nursing homes to win the first Quality of Life Award from the NH Department of Health & Human Services, the NHVH campus is home to 200 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens.



*Kimberly Michaud, BSW, Social Worker Consultant, works in the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit (LEDU) and is the recipient of the NHVH "Above and Beyond" Award for June 2009.*