

NH Veterans Home's Rose Gray Receives "Above and Beyond" Award

TILTON, NH – Rose Gray, New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) Recreation Therapist I, has received the Home's "Above and Beyond" Award for October, 2009. The NHVH Above & Beyond Award was created to recognize employees who are committed to excellence and superior performance.

Rose Gray has worked at the Veterans Home for three years. According to Melissa Milione, NHVH Human Resources Administrator, Rose was nominated by co-workers, who said: "Rose has a lighthearted and considerate nature. At the same time, she is very serious about her work and devoted to the residents in our Life Enhancement Dementia neighborhoods. She shares her talent as a musician with the veterans, providing them with musical comfort in a loving way that makes them feel safe and relaxed. She recognizes when a resident may be having a difficult day, and she initiates creative solutions that affect positive changes."

As a Recreation Therapist I, Gray plans and implements programs for the residents to address their social, physical, cognitive, and spiritual needs. She develops care plans to meet the residents' leisure needs and interests in order to maintain the highest level of independence and support for quality of life. She attends weekly care plan meetings, reviewing each resident on a quarterly basis with other members of the team. She plays cowboy and country tunes on her guitar for a weekly program called, "Music with Rose."

Of her work at NHVH she says, "Working at the Veterans Home allows me to create meaningful experiences for the residents. They are always appreciative and grateful for the time you share with them. It's a job that challenges and rewards me each day. It's a place where everyone is truly here for the residents: to provide a comfortable, engaging, and friendly environment."



Gray lives in Concord, NH close to her grandparents, aunt, and cousin, and is a singer/songwriter in her free time. She enjoys performing at cafes, farmers markets, and bookstores around New England. She also enjoys traveling, visiting her brother in New York City, going to Broadway shows, and taking road trips around New England.

Rose Gray is one of nearly 400 staff members serving 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 in 2007 from the NH Department of Health & Human Services, NHVH was recognized again this year for its continuing commitment

to nursing home culture change and quality of life. The NHVH campus is home to 200 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.

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Rose Gray (left), New Hampshire Veterans Home Recreation Therapist I, receives the NHVH "Above and Beyond" Award for October, 2009 from Melissa Milione, Human Resources Administrator.