



Northwest Iowa
Community College

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NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Iowa Community College Acknowledged at Iowa CareGivers Association's Annual Meeting

Northwest Iowa Community College (NCC), Sheldon, IA, was acknowledged at the Iowa CareGivers Association's annual meeting for their commitment to quality education for direct care workers and for their partnership on the ICA Direct Care Worker Mentor Program: A Call to Mentoring. Marilyn Stille, R.N., NCC Continuing Education Coordinator, was personally recognized for recently becoming certified to teach the mentor program.

Sanford Sheldon Medical Center, Director of Nursing, Jennifer DeJong said, "The mentor program has helped by teaching the aides to be personally accountable and hold other's accountable which has helped our teamwork, communication and resident care."

Heidee Barrett-McConnell, ICA's Community Education and Outreach Specialist, said, "The mentor program has been proven to have a positive impact on staff retention which translates into more consistent staff and better care. It also offers veteran CNAs an opportunity for advancement and the new CNAs more meaningful orientations. We hope to one day expand the program by replicating the NCC-ICA partnership within other community college districts."

ICA is a statewide association focused on reducing Iowa's serious and growing shortage of direct care workers...certified nursing assistants (CNAs), home health aides, and personal attendants – who provide a majority of the hands-on personal care in homes, nursing homes, hospices, hospitals, and other settings. The ICA mission is to provide education, recognition, advocacy, and research in support of direct care workers.

For more information about the Iowa CareGivers Association Direct Care Worker Resource & Outreach Center, please go to www.iowacaregivers.org or call 888-710-2762 or 515-223-2805.

For more information about NCC or any of its programs please call 324-5061 or 800-352-4907. Or, visit our website at www.nwicc.edu.