



WE LOVE WHAT WE DO

CARE CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION FOR CLIENTS OF BAYADA AND FAMILY MEMBERS

BAYADA Clinical Manager Pam Compagnola, RN

Taking Care of Those Who Take Care of You: The 2021 Contest for Clinicians Results

The **2021 Mission Possible: Contest for Clinicians** gave you the opportunity to express your appreciation to your clinicians for making a positive impact on you and your family. **The contest results were astounding—with 75,245 submissions—thanks to you!**

Here's what some of you had to say about some of the clinicians who won cash prizes:

"I have had an open wound in the shin area of my right leg for two years. Lauren has the only consistent trained eyes who see my progress, or not, three times a week. She has engaged the wound care nurse at BAYADA and the wound is now healing. Lauren is always on time, cheerful, and available to listen. She is my nurse, my expert, and my helper."

—Submitted on behalf of RN **Lauren Petersen**, Maui, HI Home Health office, \$500 runner-up winner



The Tampa Assistive Care office celebrates grand prize winner HHA Yerim Bae!

"Isis is very compassionate and caring. When my mom passed away in May, Isis spent her whole

shift comforting me. She did not have to do it, but she made me feel cared for and loved."

—Submitted on behalf of Home Health Aide (HHA) **Isis Callejas**, Essex County, NJ Assistive Care office, \$200 weekly winner

"Andrea is very knowledgeable and encourages me to try harder and do my best. I appreciate all she has done to help me recover from a major hip surgery and the challenges I face daily due to advanced Parkinson's disease."

—Submitted on behalf of Physical Therapist **Andrea Alvarez**, North Tucson, Arizona Home Health office, \$200 weekly winner

"Kawehi meets with my son Joshua on Saturdays for his community-based training. Joshua really looks forward to Saturdays when Kawehi actively engages and motivates him with different activities such as going to the park to play basketball and frisbee, walking or feeding the fishes, eating lunch, going to the shopping malls, doing arts and crafts, and more."

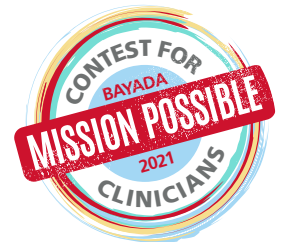
—Submitted on behalf of HHA **Kawehionalani Koki**, Oahu, HI Habilitation office, \$200 weekly winner

Clinicians were also recognized with chances to win for referring individuals with the same passion for healing and helping to join our BAYADA team. Every new hire makes BAYADA's Mission Possible by allowing us to *help more people have a safe home life with comfort, independence, and dignity.*



The Mount Laurel, NJ Pediatrics office surprised grand prize winner LPN Hawa Khan.

Thank you for your participation in the 2021 Mission Possible: Contest for Clinicians. Your heartfelt expressions of gratitude were so deeply appreciated by the clinicians who help you remain safe in the comfort of home.



Champions Among Us: Fighting for Increased Personal Care Services Funding



Stephen Hoppy, 52, proudly talks about his career as a successful business entrepreneur. The job took him all over the country and gave him the chance to experience living in Myrtle Beach, SC; Atlanta, GA; Rochester, NY; and New York City, NY.

In 2009, all of that changed for Stephen. Complications from back surgery to treat scoliosis caused paralysis from the waist down. He moved to Hazleton, PA to be close to his extended family and remained as independent as possible until contracting COVID-19 last year.

"I ended up getting COVID so bad that I needed a tracheostomy and a ventilator," said Stephen, who spent 10 months in the hospital. "I actually died twice, but they brought me back."

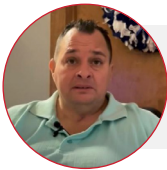
Following his discharge, the lasting effects of COVID made Stephen's daily life difficult without support. Now he relies on home health aides to help with getting out of bed, showering, and dressing. However, his shifts often go unfilled

due to the shortage of care professionals throughout PA.

"A lot of these services are funded by

Medicaid, and reimbursement rates aren't even coming close to keeping pace with what other employers are paying," said BAYADA Area Director of Government Affairs **Laura Ness**.

According to the Pennsylvania Homecare Association, the demand for home health aides is expected to grow by 29 percent by 2028, leaving PA short by nearly 75,000 aides. To meet that demand, they are lobbying the state for a 15 percent wage increase to attract more people to the profession.



Stephen Hoppy appeared on his local news station to advocate for higher reimbursement for assistive care services.

Encouraging others to share their voice

"People don't realize how important these home health aides are. Without them, I couldn't do anything," said Stephen, who willingly shared his story on WOLF Fox 56 news. "But aides are hard to find because they can make much more working in the restaurant or retail industry."

Stephen encourages those with disabilities to use their voice to fight for the services they need. He can often be found giving motivational speeches at local rehabilitation facilities, and he is writing a book detailing his challenges with scoliosis and beating COVID-19.

"I tell it like it is," said Stephen. "If somebody needs help to tell their story, just ask me and I'll be there."



Watch Stephen's feature on WOLF Fox 56 news by visiting bit.ly/WOLF-56.



Get involved in home care advocacy by attending meetings with legislators, sending emails, participating in events, or sharing your story with the media. For more information, visit heartsforhomecare.com or scan the QR code.



Hearts for Home Care

A BAYADA Community Supporting Quality Care at Home

COVID-19 News and Resources

BAYADA provides the highest standards of infection prevention practices as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

To learn more about our commitment to keeping you safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit bayada.com/covid19.asp.



Do You Need an Elder Law Attorney?



An attorney certified in elder law can help you and your loved ones navigate complex legal issues that affect an older or disabled person, including issues related to health care, long-term care planning, guardianship, retirement, social security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

They help by:

- Evaluating the client's needs relating to federal tax, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and property laws
- Preparing trusts and wills
- Determining the best way to pay for long-term health care, including private duty home care
- Assisting with disability planning, including use of durable powers of attorney, living trusts, and living wills for financial management and health care decisions
- Setting up conservatorships and guardianships
- Offering counseling on the distribution of public and private retirement benefits, survivor benefits, and pension benefits
- Helping the client and their family make difficult decisions, such as those related to end-of-life care

What are your options if you can't afford an elder law attorney?

Some dedicated elder law firms have aging life care professionals—also known as geriatric care managers—within their practice. These highly skilled and resource-informed non-attorneys can offer many additional services at a significantly lower rate than an attorney's hourly fee. Aging life care professionals are typically social workers or nurses who have access to in-depth information and resources on other services or programs.

You can also check with your local Office on Aging or search the internet for local and state agencies that may be able to help you.

How do you find an elder law attorney?

The National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys is a professional association of attorneys who are dedicated to improving the quality of legal services provided to people as they age and people with special needs.



- Visit naela.org
- Email naela@naela.org
- Call **703-942-5711**

A Birthday Party He'll Remember Forever

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Our BAYADA clinicians help their clients live their lives to the fullest. The lasting impact they make in big and small ways is reflected in the smiles they create, the joy they bring, and the burdens they ease.



This was a birthday that Jack will remember forever.

There is no better example of how their care reaches beyond the ordinary to improve lives than

the story of Jack M., a 67-year-old client with intellectual disabilities. Home Health Aide **Cathy Creevey** not only provides the compassionate care Jack desperately needs,

she made sure that his birthday was not forgotten after a particularly difficult year marked by the death of his brother and isolation caused by the pandemic.



BAYADA HHA **Cathy Creevey** appeared on her local news to talk about Jack's birthday surprise.

"When Jack asked what we were going to do for his birthday, I didn't have the heart to say no," said Cathy,

who reached out into the community and pulled out all the stops to give him a party he'll never forget.

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Content in this newsletter is provided as general summary information for our clients and is not intended to take the place of personalized medical guidance. We encourage you to seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health care professional if you have specific questions about your care.

BAYADA provides skilled nursing, rehabilitative, therapeutic, hospice, habilitation, behavioral health, and assistive care services to people of all ages. Services vary by location.

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A Birthday Party He'll Remember Forever

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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Thanks to her hard work and enthusiasm, people who contribute to Jack's everyday life gathered in his kitchen to enjoy this heartfelt birthday celebration, which came complete with pizza and cake.

"When it comes to home care, this is what it's all about," said Cathy. "The smile on his face says it all, and that's what makes it so rewarding. I love this job so much."



To view news coverage of Jack's birthday party, visit 6abc.com/3feJSru.

Jack was touched by all of the attention. He said that the best part of the festivities

was the people, and he also thinks the celebration should grow even bigger next year into a block party!

Thank you, Cathy, for turning Jack's special day into a birthday he'll remember forever.