



For Immediate Release

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**EMPLOYEE FROM LAURELWOOD AT THE PINEHILLS WINS 2022 EXCELLENCE AWARD
FROM MASSACHUSETTS ASSISTED LIVING ASSOCIATION**

August 8, 2022 – Kawsu “KK” Kajake, Resident Care Associate at Laurelwood at The Pinehills, was named the recipient of the Care and Wellness Excellence Award by the Massachusetts Assisted Living Association (Mass-ALA) at the organization’s annual Excellence Awards Dinner on July 26th, 2022. The awards are presented each year to individuals at every level of assisted living who have demonstrated their desire to make a positive difference in the lives of residents and who, in the view of their peers, stand out as role models in the industry.

Kawsu is said to have found his calling in care giving. He provides excellent care to residents with a permanent smile affixed on his face, giving them a sense of security and comfort in his presence. He goes out of his way to help and get to know his residents and mentor newer members of the care giving team. His colleagues say that Kawsu “is a beacon of positive energy and we are so fortunate he is part of the Laurelwood family.”

“We are honored to recognize the 2022 Excellence Award winners for their hard work and dedication in ensuring the highest quality of life for older adults, especially during the last two years,” said Brian Doherty, President and CEO of Mass-ALA. “Their commitment to their communities has been exemplary and we are incredibly proud to partner with them in strengthening assisted living across the Commonwealth.”

The Care and Wellness Service Excellence Award is awarded to a staff member, such as a RN, LPN, CNA, PCA, at a Mass-ALA assisted living member community who works directly with residents, to ensure a quality of life for all seniors through compassionate, truly excellent care above and beyond the call of duty.

About Mass-ALA

The Massachusetts Assisted Living Association ([Mass-ALA](#)) is a not-for-profit association dedicated to professionally operated assisted living residences that provide housing and services for individuals with varied needs and income levels. Mass-ALA serves as the voice of

assisted living, providing information and education, and advocating on behalf of our members and the seniors they serve. Mass-ALA promotes a model of care which treats all residents with dignity, provides privacy, and encourages independence and freedom of choice.

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