



For Immediate Release

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**EMPLOYEE FROM BENCHMARK SENIOR LIVING: THE VILLAGE AT WILLOW CROSSING
WINS 2022 EXCELLENCE AWARD FROM MASSACHUSETTS ASSISTED LIVING
ASSOCIATION**

August 9, 2022 – Paul DeAngelo from Benchmark Senior Living: The Village at Willow Crossing was named a recipient of the Resident Spirit 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.

DeAngelo is a Marine Corps Veteran who brings light and love into his community as part of the welcoming committee. He creates beads for staff, residents, and family members personalized with their favorite colors, the receiver’s name, and either an angel, silver bullet, or an angel’s wing. He also runs a program to teach fellow residents how to make their own signature beads. He brings residents a sense of purpose, promotes their dignity, and he never stops giving.

“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 Resident Spirit Excellence Award recognizes a resident at a Mass-ALA provider member organization who exemplifies the heart and soul of their assisted living community. This individual’s leadership, interaction with other residents and community spirit makes their community a home.

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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