



For Immediate Release

**CONTACT:**

Nicole Goldstein

954.218.7979

ngoldstein@denterlein.com

**EMPLOYEE FROM TATNUCK PARK AT WORCESTER WINS 2022 EXCELLENCE AWARD  
FROM MASSACHUSETTS ASSISTED LIVING ASSOCIATION**

**August 2 2022** – Ellen Meagher from Tatnuck Park at Worcester was named a recipient of the Program Innovation 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.

Since coming aboard as a Program Director, Meagher has made an immense difference in resident engagement and human connection despite pandemic restrictions. Her greatest innovation has been the introduction of her Drum Circle program. Balancing inflatable exercise ball on top of laundry baskets, Meagher equips residents with drumsticks to hit the balls with. The program encompasses the mental, emotional, and physical aspects of a person and all participants have a wonderful time.

“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 Program Innovation Excellence Award recognizes a staff member at a Mass-ALA Assisted Living member community who enhances the long-term quality of life for the residents by developing and implementing an innovative program such as an activity program, health & wellness program, or a family relationship program. The most compelling programs are ones that can be replicated, are on-going, and make a tangible impact on the quality of residents’ lives.

**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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