



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Horizon Health Services Employee Receives Prestigious SUNY Award;
Cited for Initiation of Educational Partnership Between NCCC and
Horizon Village to Assist Chemically-dependent Residents.**

Buffalo, NY – Horizon Health Services, the largest and most comprehensive provider of fully-integrated mental health, behavioral health, chemical dependency, medical and vocational treatment and recovery services in Western New York, announces that Horizon Village Counselor III Patrick Mackenna has been awarded the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence by The State University of New York (SUNY).

The award which this year was given to 275 students from 62 SUNY campuses, recognizes students who have best demonstrated, and been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement. Patrick received his Associate's degree in Human Services in 2007 from Niagara County Community College (NCCC), graduating with a 3.11 GPA. He was nominated for this prestigious award by NCCC.

“Patrick's commitment to the community, coupled with his leadership skills, helped initiate discussion between NCCC and Horizon Village to create an educational partnership offering both on-site courses and academic services for



Village residents and outpatient clientele,” says Dr. Cindy Oberjosh, Coordinator of Academic Exploration at NCCC. “We believed him to be the perfect candidate for this award and were thrilled to learn he was selected.”

Patrick, a five-year employee of Horizon, has received numerous awards from Horizon Village for his career achievement and community service with Habitat for Humanity and the Adopt-A-Highway project. He currently resides on Grand Island. “Patrick has always demonstrated an exceptional amount of compassion and caring for our consumers at the Village,” says Paige Prentice, MM, CASAC, vice president of residential and medical operations for Horizon and director of Horizon Village. “He has been instrumental in getting the GED and academic program at the Village up and running, and it has become an integral part of our specialized treatment for young adults at the facility.”

Horizon Health Services is a not-for-profit organization that provides an array of comprehensive services that annually assists, on average, 10,000 individuals with mental health problems and/or addictions to make choices that improve their quality of life and achieve their personal recovery goals.

Horizon Village is Horizon Health Services’ 50-bed intensive residential drug treatment program serving the eight counties of Western New York State (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming). It is designed for chemically-dependent adults who have been unable to establish and maintain abstinence through outpatient or traditional inpatient treatment. Horizon Village is licensed by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and is a cost-effective alternative to hospital-based



care. It provides opportunities for individuals to experience recovery while living in a unique, safe, therapeutic residential setting. Horizon Village provides innovative, person-centered treatment designed to offer hope for individuals in recovery.

For more information on Horizon Health Services or Horizon Village, visit www.horizon-health.org.

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