



NEWS RELEASE

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Ingleside at King Farm Launches Second Year of Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program

Participating Gaithersburg High Students Have Opportunity to Launch Health Care Careers through Training Program

Rockville, Md. – Fourteen students from Gaithersburg High School have been selected to participate in a career-launching training program this fall that will provide them with the skills to become certified nursing assistants. The program, now in its second year, is sponsored by Ingleside at King Farm, a senior living community in Rockville, and a local foundation created by Dr. William Leahy, a neurologist who serves on the Ingleside Board of Directors.

Students who have been accepted to the program participate on a tuition-free basis, as the program is fully funded by the High School Health Education Foundation. Dr. Leahy is the president and founder of the foundation, which he started more than a decade ago in Prince George's County. The training program is administered and taught by a nursing professor through Montgomery College's Workforce Development and Continuing Education division.

"Developing the skills to become a certified nursing assistant is a great way for young people to break into the health care field," said Dr. Leahy. "Through this program, they will receive both the training they need to find gainful employment and an exposure to the industry that may well encourage them to explore the nursing field or other aspects of the growing health care industry."

"The Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program that has been created by Dr. Leahy and his foundation is extraordinary, in that it gives high school students the chance to acquire career-ready skills and launch careers in health care," said Christine Podles, executive director at Ingleside at King Farm. "We're so proud to be partnering on this program for a second year and to be working once again in collaboration with the High School Health Education Foundation, Gaithersburg High School and Montgomery College."

The program will provide the training and experience necessary for students to pass certifying exams and begin a career in health care. Upon completion of the course, students will be eligible to apply for Nursing Assistant State Certification or take the Geriatric Nursing Assistant (GNA) exam.

Classes are taught in two-hour sessions during after-school hours and are held after school, three days a week, for 15 weeks. The program, which launched on September 19, provides students with clinical experiences on weekends when they will practice under the supervision of their instructor and the nursing staff in Ingleside at King Farm's Comprehensive Care Center. Participating students are expected to complete the class with a grade of 80 percent or above.

The Gaithersburg High School Education Foundation will be honoring Dr. Leahy this fall for his creation of the Certified Nursing Assistant program and its support of the participating Gaithersburg students.

For more information about Ingleside at King Farm, visit inglesideatkingfarm.org.

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About Ingleside at King Farm

Ingleside at King Farm is a senior living community located in Rockville, Md. and is a member of the Ingleside family of communities. The not-for-profit continuing care retirement community provides residents independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, memory care and rehabilitation services. Residents can engage in a wide variety of wellness and lifelong learning opportunities and access a broad range of services and amenities. Ingleside at King Farm offers a signature cultural arts program. For more information, visit www.inglesideatkingfarm.org.