



## News Release

For more information:  
Jennifer Bernheim  
Communications Manager  
One Long Wharf Drive  
New Haven, CT 06511  
[jbernheim@vnascc.org](mailto:jbernheim@vnascc.org)  
203.859-6054-Direct

For Immediate Release

### **Shelton Resident Honored with Nightingale Nursing Award**

New Haven, CT (May 18, 2011) – Shelton resident and Clinical Supervisor at the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut (VNA/SCC) Linda Gorel, RN, BSN was recently honored with the *Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing*. Gorel was one of 70 Greater New Haven area nurses acknowledged at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing*, which was held at the Toyota Presents Oakdale Theatre. Edward M. Kennedy, Jr. served as the event's Honorary Chairman and Keynote Speaker.

Twenty-four years ago, Gorel began her career at the VNA/SCC as a primary care nurse. Prior to serving as Clinical Supervisor, she held various management positions including Continuous Quality Improvement Special Projects Manager and Referral Manager. As one of eight Clinical Supervisors, Gorel manages 10 nurses and 150 patients.

“It was an honor for me to be chosen as a Nightingale recipient as there are many qualified nurses at our agency,” Gorel said. “I was truly shocked and very appreciative.”

Carla Giugno, Vice President, Clinical Services and Administrator of the VNA/SCC, said “Linda is more than deserving of the Nightingale honor. During her tenure at our agency, she has demonstrated both outstanding clinical and management skills, always leading by example.”

In addition to her full time position with the VNA/SCC, Gorel is the volunteer coordinator for Shelton's St. Joseph's Church parish nursing program where she works 8-10 hours per week and oversees 12 volunteers.

Gorel resides in Shelton with her husband and two children.

### **About the *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing***

The *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing* program was originally developed in 2001 by the [Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut](#) to be a collaborative effort to celebrate outstanding nurses and elevate the nursing profession. The goal of the Nightingale Awards are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention on and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practice at the local level. In 2003, the *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing* grew to include programs in Greater Fairfield, Greater Hartford, and Eastern Conn. as well as the original program in New Haven.

The *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing* are non-competitive and inclusive of all health care settings - hospitals, home health care, health centers, schools, health departments, long-term care facilities, nursing schools, agencies, and medical practices. Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners who demonstrate excellence may be nominated for recognition by their employers if they are involved in clinical practice, leadership, scholarship, and/or education.

### **About VNA Health Systems**

VNA Health Systems is comprised of the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut (VNA/SCC) and *CareSource*, Inc.

Founded in 1904, the VNA/SCC, which is the original VNA of New Haven, Milford and the Valley, is a state licensed, non-profit, community-based home health care agency. The VNA/SCC staff consists of highly skilled nurses, therapists, medical social workers and home health aides. A vital resource to the communities it serves, the VNA/SCC provides a wide range of specialized clinical services, community programs, the Nurturing Families Network and subsidized care, through United Way funding, to those who are in need. The agency employs over 230 staff members, has an average daily census of over 1,000

patients and makes over 170,000 home visits per year. The agency is the founder of the *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing*. The VNA/SCC is supported in part by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, local United Way organizations, corporate sponsors and individual donors. To learn more about the VNA/SCC visit [www.vnascc.org](http://www.vnascc.org).

CareSource strives to maximize the quality of life for its clients and their caregivers in the home and health care settings. Their services include homemakers, companions and live-in aides. To learn more about CareSource visit [www.caresourceinc.org](http://www.caresourceinc.org).

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