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Caregiver Services program earns national recognition

Legacy Caregiver Services has received the American Society on Aging's prestigious NOMA (Network of Multicultural Aging) Award for its successful Powerful Tools for Caregivers program. The award, which is sponsored by the AARP Foundation, recognizes the program's service to a multicultural aging population. Legacy Caregiver Services' Manager, Kathy Shannon, accepted the award at the American Society on Aging's national conference on March 17 in Las Vegas.

At the conference, Shannon and Powerful Tools for Caregivers Coordinator, Leslie Congleton, also gave a presentation on the program's success across cultures. "We feel the program has been successful across cultures because it addresses universal caregiver challenges and allows for individual adaptation of the self-care tools," Shannon says. Caregiver Services developed Powerful Tools for Caregivers more than 10 years ago in response to research that showed a high mortality rate among caregivers of people with chronic illnesses. The program's reputation as a "best practice" has resulted in it now being offered in 28 states by 1,100 instructors. Its training materials have reached more than 50,000 caregivers throughout the United States.

Outreach to multicultural communities has been one of the program's primary goals. As an example of the international interest that Powerful Tools for Caregivers has generated, Care Alliance Ireland has invited Shannon to introduce the program to a dozen nonprofit organizations in June during its Family Carer Training Seminar in Athlone, Ireland.

(Article excerpted from "Insight" newsletter)

Legacy Health System, a nonprofit organization, includes Emanuel Hospital & Health Center, Emanuel Children's Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center, Meridian Park Hospital, Mount Hood Medical Center, Salmon Creek Hospital, Legacy Clinics and CareMark/Managed HealthCare Northwest PPO. Legacy Health System is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
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