LeadingAge™ Minnesota

KORTOE MIKELY, HOME HEALTH AIDE WITH ST. THERESE OF NEW HOPE, RECEIVES MAKE ZERO HARM POSSIBLE AWARD

Saint Paul, MN (Oct. 21, 2019) – Kortoe Mikely, Nursing/Home Health Aide at St. Therese of New Hope, recently received the Make Zero Harm Possible Award from LeadingAge Minnesota.

The award recognizes staff in aging services settings who demonstrate their commitment to safe, quality care and to treating the people they serve with respect and dignity – always.

"Kortoe Mikel treats all who live and work at St. Therese of New with respect and dignity. She sees their quality of life as a core value of her work, and goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure a safe, trusted environment for all residents and the family members," said Gayle Kvenvold, President and CEO, LeadingAge Minnesota.

A recent experience demonstrated Mikely's commitment to provide care, comfort and support to seniors who live at St. Therese of New Hope and their families. A family member who visiting her mother in hospice accidently dropped her mother's wedding ring from the 7th floor balcony. The ring landed among the shrubs on a second-floor patio. The family member was quite distraught and saddened by what happened. When notified of the situation, Mikely literally jumped into action – hopping over railings, getting on the ground and carefully searching for the beloved ring. The ring was found and delivered back to the relieved family member who once again was able to hold in her hands a significant connection to her mom.

"Through her dedication to our residents, in both the care and services she provides, as well as helping family members find comfort in moments of despair, Kortoe is the epitome of what it means to provide person-centered care with respect and dignity," said Kendra Hiles, Director of Nursing, Buffalo Lake Health Care Center.

The Make Zero Harm Possible award is one component of LeadingAge Minnesota's **Safe Care for Seniors** initiative, a comprehensive safety and quality improvement program. The program is designed to strengthen the culture of safety, prevent the risk of harm before it occurs, and uncover new opportunities for learning and improvement in the delivery of care and services.

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About LeadingAge Minnesota
Driven to transform and enhance the experience of aging, LeadingAge Minnesota is the state's largest association of organizations serving older adults. Together with more than 60,000 caregivers, our members provide quality, compassionate services and support to nearly 70,000 older adults every day in independent living, assisted living, adult day, and skilled nursing.