



the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

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**ADULT DAY CARE WORKERS HONORED FOR  
OUTSTANDING CARE OF THE ELDERLY**

LOS ANGELES (July 27, 2009) -- Recognizing outstanding service in the field of adult day care, winners of the annual Alzheimer's Association **Jim Segel Award for Passion and Commitment to Adult Day Services** were announced by the Alzheimer's Association, California Southland Chapter.

**Jacob Guzman**, a program aide at the Jewish Family Service (JFS)/Partners Adult Day Health Care Center in West Hollywood received the 2009 Alzheimer's Association Jim Segel Award. The award is given each year to an exemplary employee of an adult day care center who shows outstanding service and care for participants with dementia.

Two finalists for the 2009 award were **Maria Moreno**, a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at the S. Mark Taper Foundation/St. Barnabas Senior Center near downtown Los Angeles; and **Brian Rattray**, a social work assistant at Golden Acres in North Hollywood.

They were honored on July 7 at the Alzheimer's Association annual recognition event, where they received commendations from the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

"I love my job at the center," Guzman said, "It's great to make a difference in the lives of these people by providing them with the care and attention they deserve."

"These three individuals exemplify the best in adult day services for the elderly," said Debra Cherry, executive vice president of the Alzheimer's Association, California Southland Chapter. "They are committed and energetic workers who know how to engage people with dementia so that they remain active and involved in daily activities. We applaud their outstanding contributions."

Guzman has been with the JFS center since it opened 14 years ago. Fluent in English and in Spanish, he also has learned some Russian, which enables him to better interact with the center's clients. He was recognized for his passion and commitment to adult day services, as well as being a team player who is dedicated to his job, the center and the participants.

Moreno has been with the St. Barnabas Senior Center for 12 years. "Maria understands dementia and how it affects our participants," said Rigo Saborio, executive director of St. Barnabas. "She is adept at handling challenging behaviors and has excellent communication skills. We are very pleased that the Alzheimer's Association has recognized her."

Ratray has been with Golden Acres for two years. "Brian exemplifies the quality care and service we provide to families who entrust us with their loved ones," said Maria Tagdulang, program director. "He is skilled at assessing and tracking their skills, strengths and deficits. He interacts with our clients very well and also engages them in group and individual activities."

### **About the Jim Segal Award**

Jim Segal helped develop the Adult Day Services Institute Committee at the Alzheimer's Association. With Jim's guidance, the committee started 10 new centers and enhanced the ability of numerous existing centers to serve persons with dementia. In honor of his commitment to adult day services, the Adult Day Services Institute developed the only award recognizing exemplary staff at Adult Day Services in Los Angeles County, the Jim Segal Award for Passion and Commitment to Adult Day Services. The award is presented each year to an exemplary employee of an adult day center who shows outstanding service and care for participants with dementia. The top three nominees are recognized by the Alzheimer's Association.

### **About the Alzheimer's Association**

The Alzheimer's Association, California Southland chapter, is a donor-supported, voluntary health organization committed to research, care and support for those living with Alzheimer's disease and their families in the counties of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino. For more than 27 years, the chapter has provided critical services and programs to thousands of Alzheimer's affected-families in California Southland communities. For more information, visit [www.alz.org/californiasouthland](http://www.alz.org/californiasouthland).

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