



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHA to Recognize Windham Hospital's Shawn Maynard as a Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 99th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Shawn Maynard, Executive Director of the Windham Hospital Foundation, as a 2017 Healthcare Hero. He was nominated for this award by Steve Coates.

How does a guy who started his career at Windham Hospital 40 years ago as a substitute switchboard operator become a Healthcare Hero? Mr. Maynard does it one patient, one cause, and one caring interaction at a time.

In 1978, Mr. Maynard began his career at Windham as a per-diem switchboard operator. By 1993, he'd risen to the role of Executive Assistant to the hospital president and had assumed oversight of Auxiliary and Voluntary Services. He is now Executive Director of the Windham Hospital Foundation.

The list of initiatives and accomplishments in his career is long and varied. In 1993, Mr. Maynard was instrumental in creating a volunteer service credit program designed to help uninsured patients "pay-off" their hospital bills. Each hour volunteered at the hospital was given a dollar value, or credit, that could be applied toward outstanding balances. The program was so successful a news crew visited the hospital to film a segment on the program that aired on the NBC Nightly News in October 1993. In 1997, Mr. Maynard worked with CHA to draft guidelines, ultimately approved and used by all Connecticut hospitals, for the provision of appropriate communication services for the deaf or hard of hearing.

Since 2012, Mr. Maynard has worked with the community to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for crucial programs. Mr. Maynard's work with the Windham Hospital Foundation is just a small fraction of his community service, however. He is a long-standing volunteer with the Windham Region United Way, and serves as a Board member of United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut. He is also a leading advocate for the American Cancer Society, serving in multiple leadership roles.

And, while Mr. Maynard has dedicated his professional life to improving the lives of the people who live in our community and beyond, friends and colleagues will tell you that his one-on-one interactions are truly what make him special. Whether it's holding the hand of a lost elderly patient while guiding her to an appointment, or clearing snow from a nurse's car so she can get home to her family after a 16-hour work day, Mr. Maynard has always been there when the Windham Hospital community and patients need him most.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 16th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.

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The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, public health, and hospital reimbursement.

