

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Selma Hainley  
LutherCare  
717-626-1171 ext. 697  
shainley@luthercare.org

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### **2007 PANPHA Distinguished Service Award Presented to Audrey Kahl, Spang Crest Manor Employee**



LutherCare is pleased to announce that Audrey Kahl, Spang Crest Manor employee, was presented the Staff Member of the Year Award for the 2007 PANPHA Distinguished Service Awards on June 28, 2007 at the PANPHA Annual Conference in Hershey, PA.

Audrey Kahl, Housekeeper at Spang Crest Manor, truly loves her job. Spang Crest Manor, Lebanon, PA is a LutherCare center providing seniors quality care and a dignified lifestyle, when they can no longer live on their own. Ms Kahl, a member of the staff at Spang Crest Manor for **thirty years**, is an example of what everyone hopes for in an employee. Her dedication and loyalty is tireless and unwavering. She is not only dependable in completing her assigned duties, but sees a need and completes it without anyone asking. Audrey sees what others overlook. She is a take-charge kind of person and encourages the rest of the staff to be the same. Never in bad mood, she always has a smile and something positive to say about every situation.

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The residents at Spang Crest are Ms Kahl's main concern and she will do anything within her power to assist and encourage them. She coordinated the housekeeping department in sending Christmas cards to all the discharged residents, and on her own sends sympathy cards to family members of the residents who pass away. She spends time with each resident, talking about the things that interest them and interacting with their family members when they visit. She purchases Christmas gifts for residents who might otherwise not receive any. Audrey's commitment to her job is unsurpassable. When others turn a deaf ear to work, Audrey always steps forward and offers readily. She always asks to work holidays to allow other staff members time off. During the renovations and construction in 2006 of Spang Crest, Audrey rearranged and finally gave up her vacation to be available for the duties that needed completed. The laundry room was not always useable during the renovation period and Audrey would assist with the hauling of 500 lbs of laundry to a public laundromat in her own car. She would arrive at Spang Crest at 3:00 am and load up the car whenever needed. Her ability to use time wisely and efficiently is evident. While some see five minutes before quitting time as time to pack up for home, Audrey sees it as time to put away two more cases of toilet paper. Audrey is not one to sing her own praises. When asked why she always goes the extra mile by her supervisor, her reply was "You taught us to be like this." Ms Kahl may not have her BA in Humanities, but does have her Master's in personality and compassion. Audrey is truly a remarkable individual and most deserving of the Staff Member of the Year Award. Audrey lives in Campbelltown with her husband and son. Ms Kahl will be honored at a special luncheon to be held at Spang Crest Manor on Wednesday, July 25 from 11 am to 1 pm.

PANPHA's Distinguished Service Awards program was established in 1973 to honor those very special people whose works shine like a beacon for others to follow. Currently there are eleven awards, each focusing on a different aspect of service but equally important. The PANPHA organization represents over 340 nonprofit providers of long-term care and housing services for 65,000 elderly residents across Pennsylvania. The Association is committed to helping its members provide quality care efficiently and effectively for the individuals and families they serve. In an age of impersonal care, PANPHA members put people before profits.

LutherCare, a social ministry organization affiliated with the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran Services in America is a leading provider of independent, assisted living, and skilled care residences in Lancaster and Lebanon County. LutherCare operates Luther Acres, a Continuing Care Retirement Community in Lititz, PA, Spang Crest Manor, a skilled nursing,

rehabilitation center and assisted living community in Lebanon, PA and St. John's Herr Estate, an independent and assisted living community in Columbia, PA. In addition, Luthercare also operates five childcare centers in Lebanon, Annville, Reamstown, Lancaster and Columbia.

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