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CALA'S ANNUAL ASSISTED LIVING EMPLOYEE AWARDS OUTSTANDING RESIDENT SERVICE 2016

Jeanie Gomez is someone the staff and residents at Middlewoods of Newington can always count on to have a smile and spread sunshine throughout the community. Jeanie, our LPN, is considered a "Jill of all trades" and goes above and beyond each day, helping anyone who needs help and always maintaining a positive attitude and strong sense of professionalism.

During a winter storm, a resident commented that she missed playing in the snow like when she was a child. Jeanie didn't hesitate to go out in the snowstorm to collect a bowl of snow so that she could "play in the snow", bringing an instant smile and opportunity to reminisce for the resident.

We are an intimate community of 60 residents and about the same amount of staff. Jeanie always comes up with wonderful ideas to help engage the staff and keeps the family feeling of our community alive. She is known for planning staff potlucks (and making delicious food). She also is known for sending out inspirational videos and ideas to motivate and inspire.

For Middlewoods of Newington's 13th Anniversary Party, our great room was transformed into a USO Dance in the South Pacific. Jeanie took charge of decorating, including helping to put together a very large patriotic balloon arch. She also dressed up in a vintage 1940's nursing outfit, much to the delight of residents and their families.

When I think of a staff member who continually goes above and beyond and has a strong sense of character and lives our mission daily, Jeanie Gomez is who comes to mind. She loves being an LPN and taking care of our residents, but Jeanie is also always willing to help in any way, in any department, and she always does it with a smile and a pleasant attitude. She can be seen answering phones, helping out housekeeping, running an activity or helping with a craft, etc, etc. Her smile and positive attitude are infectious. She is sweet, caring and good natured. We are blessed to have her as a key member of the Middlewoods of Newington team.