

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Feb. 14, 2017 CONTACT LuAnne Davis 804-438-4175 Idavis@rw-c.org

Seven graduate from Personal Care Aide Training Class

At Home with RWC adds new full-time employees

IRVINGTON, Va. – Susan Kothman wasn't even thinking about returning to the workforce when she heard an ad on the radio about At Home with RWC's Personal Care Aide Training Class. With a background in retailing, she had spent recent years as a caregiver to family members and wanted to find out if she had what it took to be certified. She did.

Kothman and six other women graduated from the week-long training class on Feb. 7 and are now undergoing a two-week orientation including shadowing other At Home with RWC caregivers. Afterwards, they will be assigned to clients on the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury campus, as well as in private homes in the Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula and beyond.

"There is a huge demand for at-home care in this area right now," said RWC Director of Staff Development Angela Kelly, RN, who directs the new training program. "The demand is high because so many people want to age in place and stay in their own home. They want to avoid long-term care and At Home with RWC allows them to do that."

At Home with RWC jump-started its recruiting efforts for Personal Care Aides with the debut of a week-long paid training class Feb. 1-7 and will repeat the class early March. Interested caregivers fill out an application and if hired, are paid to take the training class and learn how to provide care the RWC way.

Kothman already had the nurturing and caring part of the job figured out, but she had never had CPR training, nor had she ever taken blood pressure.

Kelly uses mannequins to demonstrate providing exceptional care. They also spent time in the assisted living area of RWC with residents and supervised by RWC nurses.

"This group was so interested and asked such wonderful questions," Kelly said. "These women are going to be really dedicated employees. Their compassion is through the roof and their desire to learn more about how to do things the right way is just really inspiring. Our RWC residents and At Home clients will get the absolute best care possible."

To apply for the Personal Care Aide Training Program that begins early March and to become an employee of RWC, download the application from the RWC website, www.rw-c.org, and email to <u>hrmgr@rw-c.org</u> or call the HR department at 804-438-4244. Class size is limited.



Ideal candidates for the personal care aide program are mature, motivated individuals who may be looking for a career change, parents who would like to work during school hours and those seeking a competitive salary, benefits, a rewarding opportunity and flexible schedule.

About Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury

Established in 1985, Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury is a church-related, continuing care community that provides the highest quality living experience for discerning, active senior adults. Situated on 165 beautiful acres outside the village of Irvington in Virginia's Northern Neck, RWC is home to those who want the independence and worry-free lifestyle afforded them in a tranquil, rural setting. RWC strives to provide residents everything they require for daily living right in the RWC neighborhood. Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury Inc. is a Virginia nonprofit corporation affiliated with the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches. All religions are welcome. Learn more about RWC at www.rw-c.org.

About At Home with RWC

At Home with RWC is a service of Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury and maintains the RWC mission of service excellence provided to all for whom we have the privilege of caring.



Photo cutline: Personal Care Aide Training graduates include (seated, left to right) Katheryn Sullivan, Teresa Burrell and Tylisha Crockett. Standing, left to right is Kelli Lockhart, Susan Kothman, Kay Lewis and Jewel Wingfield.