



March 27, 2010

Re: Senior Care Companions

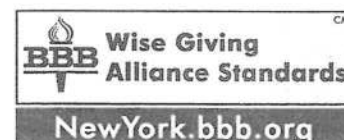
To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in written in support of Senior Care Companions’ application for licensure as a licensed home health agency. The Long Island Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association has collaborated with Senior Care Companions for the past several years and maintains this agency on our referral list. This agency provides ongoing training for their employees utilizing our Chapter and our Accepting the Challenge training tools.

Today, there are over 5.3 million people in this country with a diagnose of Alzheimer’s Disease. Of this number, 200,000 plus are Early-Onset cases – individuals under the age of sixty- five. Here on Long Island we have an estimated 55,000 cases and in our office alone, we are servicing thirty-seven cases of Early Onset with our youngest client at age forty-three.

We also have 77 million baby boomers in this country with one in eight at risk for developing Alzheimer’s Disease. It is estimated that by the year 2050, if we do not find a cure for Alzheimer’s Disease, the National number of people with the disease could grow to sixteen million individuals.

We need to begin now to put an infrastructure in place to ensure quality care in the home as this population continues to grow. And for this reason, AALI is supporting Senior Care Companions’ request for licensure. As individuals begin to age in place in their home, licensed services will be needed. Today, here on Long Island, we have a minimal amount of licensed agencies that families can choose, so it is important to increase the number of licensed agencies to allow our Long Island residents freedom of choice when it comes to care in the home.





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The Long Island Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association has been assisting families since 1983 and our job as an organization is to keep families in their homes for as long as possible . Research studies have proven that when appropriate support services are put in place, we can keep people in their homes for more that 600 days – avoiding premature institutionalization. This in turn helps to save States and Counties millions of dollars in Medicaid costs.

Therefore, we support the efforts of Senior Care Companions and ask that you consider their request to become a licensed home health agency.

If you have questions or need further information from me, please do not hesitate to contact me on my direct line which is (631) 820-8068.

Very truly yours,

alzheimer's association long island

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ann Malack-Ragona". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the typed name and title below it.

Mary Ann Malack-Ragona
Executive Director/CEO

