



Angel of the Month: Sheila Philemond

We are honored to award Sheila Philemond Angel of the Month for November 2019. Sheila began working with Visiting Angels Newton/Canton just over two years ago, in October of 2017. She was described as insightful, conscientious, caring, and professional in her initial interviews.

Sheila moved to Massachusetts from Florida three years ago to be closer to her parents and five siblings. Sheila attends nursing school while working full-time for Visiting Angels Newton/Canton. Sheila and her siblings also work together to care for their mother. Her son is preparing to graduate high school this Spring and will be pursuing a degree in engineering. She enjoys shopping and carving out time for herself whenever possible within her busy schedule. Sheila looks forward to a time when she can travel more again and is interested in exploring Europe and Asia in the future.

Sheila has several years of experience working in the home care field. She is a certified phlebotomist as well as a trained CNA. Sheila also has vast experience working with Alzheimer's and dementia Clients. She has always had a caring and sensitive nature and lives by a spiritual belief that we are all connected and can add a great value to society. "Caring for others is a calling. I think about what I can contribute to humanity while I'm here on earth."

Sheila has had six Client cases with us since she became a Visiting Angels Newton/Canton team member. Our Case Manager, Susan Saris, has been working with Sheila since she was hired and has always been impressed with her dedication and desire to be of assistance. "She possesses genuine empathy for her Clients and pays attention to what is happening with them, informing me of changes or concerns she may have regarding their condition or care needs." Sheila makes strong connections with her Clients and presents with kindness and patience. She is extremely professional and has high regard for the work she does, recognizing her value in providing skilled services that positively impact the lives of her Clients, and their loved ones.

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All of this is very evident in Sheila's work with one of Susan's present Clients. She began working with this Client in April of 2018. She is an extreme fall risk, needing guidance and assistance at all times. She lives at a local residential care community and enjoys socializing and participating in various activities. Sheila has adapted to her Client's needs and ensures that she can continue to be involved in group programs and engagements as much as possible. Sheila has been very sensitive to the progression of her Client's memory issues and the changes in her physical condition. She is aware of the increase in her anxiety and makes it a point to support her with reassurance, in a calming and confident manner. Sheila always desires to do her best by meeting her Client's needs, which is genuinely appreciated by their Client's family and by us.

Thank you, Sheila, for the care you provide. Your efforts come from a heartfelt place. We value your intellect, experience, and exceptional skills. You are a pleasure to work with, and we look forward to working together with you in the years to come. We are grateful to have you as part of our team at Visiting Angels Newton/Canton.