

Continuing Care Assistance Program – Changing lives with respect and dignity

Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 2, 2007 – It's the second week of classes for students in the Continuing Care Assistant (CCA) program at TEC The Education Company College of Health Care, College of Management (TEC). In the lab area, students are busy learning how to make a hospital bed and practicing the art of moving patients confined to their beds.

One of the students is Ruth Akhanyinya. She arrived in Canada a year ago, from Kenya. "In Africa, family and friends care for the elderly and disabled as part of community life," says Ruth. "I am excited to be able to build a profession around helping people in a way that comes so naturally to me."

Throughout the CCA program students learn how to effectively care for residents in long-term care facilities, as well as those who are living at home. CCAs fill an important role in the health care system and there is high demand for their skills upon graduation.

"It's more than just making beds and changing diapers," says Joyce McKinley, another CCA student. "Small things, that we often ignore, are so very important to learn and deliver to those that we will care for. It's about providing quality of life. It's challenging work and I'm excited by what I have already learned in the program."

To help fill industry demand, companies like Shannex, Bayshore and Comcare offer both tuition reimbursement and employment opportunities to graduates of the CCA program.

"There's such a need for people to do this kind of work," adds Joyce. "A shortage exists today. With the baby boomers approaching the age where they will need the type of care we provide there will be even more demand."

Back in the lab, Ruth and Joyce work with their Registered Nurse and Occupational Therapist instructors on body mechanics so they can correctly and safely transfer and lift patients. What seems simple and basic to the young and agile, is so very vital to those whom CCAs serve.

"Respect, dignity, safety and privacy. These are so important to all of us in our daily lives," adds Ruth. "It is these elements that form the principles by which we learn our skills and will help change people's lives in the future."

More information on CCA and other programs offered by TEC College of Health Care visit TECnovascotia.com or call 902-429-7373.

About TEC College of Health Care, College of Management:

TEC The Education Company College of Health Care, College of Management is owned and operated by CATAC Halifax Inc. TEC is a provider of focused health care and business management diploma and certificate programs in Medical Office Administration and Continuing Care Assistance (CCA) and targeted business and management training in Business Administration, Network and Internet Security Specialist, Programmer Analyst/Internet Solutions Developer, Accounting and Payroll*, and Executive Office Assistant*. Programs are targeted to meet industry demands so graduates will enter the job market with relevant, sought-



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after skills. TEC's mission is to provide superior, career-oriented training programs that will prepare graduates to meet the needs and expectations of employers and to strive at all times to achieve excellence in training.

TEC College of Health Care offers the unique advantage of small class sizes and partnership programs with a number of industry players including Shannex, Bayshore and Comcare.

**Pending Department of Education Approval*

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