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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FirstLight® Home Care Announces Creation of “FirstLight Caregiver Academy”

The company’s highly trained caregivers now receive specialized training to enhance the safety, quality, independence and experience of in-home care

FirstLight Home Care® locations in Melbourne and Vero Beach, Florida, have announced a unique initiative that will place specially trained caregivers in homes to better address the needs and outcomes of non-medical home care patients.

Grayson Hausman, senior care advocate and owner of FirstLight Home Care in Melbourne and Vero Beach, stated “After years of providing award winning in-home care services, I stepped back and asked myself - how can FirstLight provide even better care that is specific to the needs of each individual client? How can we stand out from all other in-home care companies in the services we provide?”

Hausman spoke to clients, referral sources and others to get their insights, and two key points rose to the top: 1) hire only the very best caregivers, and 2) offer the tools and training that allow them to provide a higher level of in-home care.

“Unfortunately, caregivers are often looked at as a commodity,” Hausman added. “But FirstLight spends a significant amount of time and resources focused on attracting and retaining the best caregivers. They are, without a doubt, our greatest asset. By providing advanced training opportunities to our caregivers, it helps to engage them and give them what they want... the tools and knowledge to be the best caregiver possible.”

In-Depth Training on Fall Prevention, Dementia Care and End of Life Care

FirstLight is the first In-home care company in Florida to offer their caregivers in-depth training in areas such as in-home safety and fall prevention, Parkinson’s and dementia care, hospice and end of life care. The training primarily consists of instruction that is approved by the Florida Board of Nursing. The courses contain approximately six hours of instruction, including online and live, real-world training. After completing the training and successfully passing an assessment, the caregiver is awarded a certificate of completion and opportunities to put their training into action.

- The first training topic to be rolled out addresses the growing issue of in-home safety and fall prevention. Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among persons aged ≥ 65 years, so we wanted to address this need immediately.
- Similarly, the need for supplemental assistance for those with Alzheimer’s is growing exponentially. Specialized Alzheimer’s and dementia care training will be the second topic to launch. With well-trained Alzheimer’s and Dementia caregivers, we can help take the burden

off the shoulders of family and friends and provide them the respite they deserve to help prevent caregiver burnout.

- The third specialized caregiver training initiative focuses on hospice and end of life supportive services. FirstLight is not a licensed hospice provider but there is a great need for families and friends who are carrying the burden of caring for a loved one in this phase of life. FirstLight has partnered with several hospice companies as part of an intradisciplinary team to provide much needed respite care and supportive services such as assisting patients with activities of daily living. The training is focused on FirstLight's role in the non-medical coordination of services, patient rights, end of life care, the impact of grief, etc.

"This is an exciting time for FirstLight Home Care. With approximately 90% of seniors saying they prefer to age in their own home, the future of in-home care will require specialized training to make this possible. We already offer ongoing education to our caregivers. But to provide our patients and caregivers with this enhanced training is a win-win for all."

Additionally, FirstLight's business model allows franchise owners to make all of their caregivers employees of the company. "Unlike many home care registries, we can roll out robust training initiatives, deliver hands on supervision of each case, and provide the necessary insurances and the peace of mind to ensure the quality of care is not compromised."

[FirstLight Home Care of Melbourne](#) provides non-medical home care services throughout Brevard County.

[FirstLight Home Care of Vero Beach](#) serves clients in Indian River County.

About FirstLight Home Care

FirstLight Home Care is a leading provider of non-medical home care, helping individuals in more than 30 states achieve the quality of life they deserve. The company has set a new standard in home care by creating an unmatched Culture of Care that drives industry-leading client and employee satisfaction. FirstLight is a lifeline not only for seniors, but for people recovering from illness, injury or surgery, adults with disabilities, veterans, busy families, and anyone 18 and older who needs personal or companion care services. FirstLight Home Care's mission is to deliver exceptional, compassionate care provided by extraordinary people so that all those who are served may age with comfort, dignity and independence in the place they call home. We are also proud to champion the family caregivers who give countless hours of care to their loved ones every day by providing the resources and support needed to help them maintain balance in their own lives. Visit FirstLightHomeCare.com. Connect with FirstLight on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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