



## **Duncaster and Charter Oak State College Announce Educational Partnership**

### ***Health Care and Education Alliance Formed to Advance Health Care Workforce in CT***

March 25, 2020 – Hartford, CT -- Duncaster, ([duncaster.org](http://duncaster.org)), and Charter Oak State College ([CharterOak.edu](http://CharterOak.edu)), are pleased to announce an educational partnership to advance the region's Health Care workforce. The partnership between the continuing care retirement community and the State's public online College provides Duncaster employees access to Charter Oak's online degree and certificate programs at reduced rates.

The partnership seeks to build the lowest cost path for employees to earning workforce relevant degrees and certificates online at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Employees will receive reduced tuition rates, and all application fees will be waived. Employees may apply for employer provided scholarships to use with the partnership benefits to significantly defray the cost of earning a new credential. The College will provide employees with opportunities to participate in Health Care focused Open Houses and live and recorded webinars on a number of Health Care topics by leading faculty with expertise in the field.

"A core vision of Duncaster is to continuously provide opportunities for employee growth and advancement through our ongoing investment in the development of our employees. Duncaster's partnership with Charter Oak State College will be an excellent resource for our employees who are looking to further their career through degree or certificate programs. We are impressed by Charter Oak's high-quality online educational programs and their individualized, empowering approach to learning particularly for our workforce who are working while striving to pursue educational opportunities. Duncaster's overall goal is to enhance the skills of our employees and to recruit and retain our workforce well into the future," said Michael O'Brien, Duncaster President and CEO.

Charter Oak State College President Ed Klonoski said, "Charter Oak State College has developed a niche in the delivery of online Health Care programs and provides the opportunity for workers of any shift to complete courses in an asynchronous format without having to commute to a campus or commit to scheduled instruction times. We're proud to partner with Duncaster, a leading independent living community to advance the workforce in Connecticut."

At the Master's level, the College offers degrees in Health Care Administration, Health Informatics, and Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership. At the Undergraduate level the College offers an online RN to BSN, and degrees including Health Information Management, Health Care Administration, Cyber Security, Psychology, and Sociology, as well as degree bearing certificates in subjects including Long Term Care, Elder Care and Medical Coding.

The Duncaster Foundation maintains an active Education Fund. Staff seeking to further their education may annually apply to the Fund for assistance. There is no limit to the number of years an employee may apply, and funds may be used for books and tuition.

Duncaster ([www.Duncaster.org](http://www.Duncaster.org)) is a locally-founded not-for-profit Life Plan Community located in Bloomfield, Connecticut. Established in 1984 as the first not-for-profit Continuing Care Retirement Community in the Greater Hartford area, Duncaster offers options for senior adults seeking independent living, assisted living, memory care, rehab services, long-term care and offers an independent lifestyle with exceptional residential options, amenities, and wellness.

Founded in 1973, Charter Oak State College ([www.CharterOak.edu](http://www.CharterOak.edu)) is Connecticut's public online college, offering associate and bachelor's degrees in high-demand fields including Health Information Management, Nursing, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education and Business Administration. The College offers master's degrees in Health Care Administration, Health Informatics and Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership. Charter Oak is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education and governed by Connecticut's Board of Regents for Higher Education.