

Media Contacts:

Fernanda Bottini

(312) 565-4623; fbottini@lcwa.com

Angela FitzSimmons

(919) 785-1214, ext. 280; AFitzSimmons@achc.org

ACHC Expands Accreditation Offerings to Include Assisted Living Communities

New Program Complements ACHC's Suite of Nationally Recognized Accreditation and Compliance Programs and Services

CARY, NC (Aug. 18, 2021) – As the U.S. population ages, more seniors and their families are seeking home-like residential settings that offer a menu of personal care services designed to maximize independence and autonomy. The Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC), a nonprofit accreditation organization with deeming authority from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for many community-based healthcare settings, is expanding its accreditation offerings to include Assisted Living Accreditation focused on high-quality resident care and best business practices for this growing industry.

“At ACHC we see Assisted Living Accreditation as a means of validating quality in a growing and competitive health care industry segment,” said Denise Hobson, RN, assisted living program director for ACHC. “Providing an outstanding residential environment for seniors means more than just furnishing a roof over their heads. It is a commitment to establishing a safe environment that stimulates social engagement while delivering the person-centered care needed to optimize independence.”

ACHC’s Assisted Living Accreditation was developed to support communities dedicated to allowing residents to live comfortably and maximize their ability to maintain independence while reducing the responsibilities, stresses and risks inherent in maintaining a home. It also evaluates environmental safety, quality of care, and business operations for independent, for-profit and non-profit facilities as well as those established regional and national brands known for senior accommodations.

Assisted living communities offer housing, meals, activities, and assistance with personal care and daily needs. ACHC’s Assisted Living Accreditation evaluates these residential communities not only for their commitment to providing quality services, but also for their specialty care areas for memory services. ACHC awards accreditation to facilities that meet or exceed national standards for quality.

Surveyors with direct experience in senior care settings conduct the triennial surveys and award accreditation based on adherence to these established guidelines and a culture of quality improvement.

“It was such a positive experience. One that allowed dialogue and understanding and truly felt like a team effort. It was everything a survey should be, but very seldom is,” said Janne Mills, administrator of

139 Weston Oaks Ct., Cary, NC 27513 | achc.org | T (855) 937-2242 F (919) 785-3011

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Heritage Care of Elizabeth City [North Carolina], one of the first assisted living communities to pursue and achieve this recognition from ACHC.

“Accreditation is an opportunity for assisted living facilities and care homes to distinguish themselves from their competition,” said Hobson. “It really is a badge of honor that can demonstrate to residents and their loved ones that they have chosen a safe, high-quality establishment committed to best practices and the well-being of their residents.”

To learn more about ACHC’s Assisted Living Accreditation, visit www.achc.org.

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About ACHC

Accreditation leader ACHC is a nonprofit with 35 years of experience promoting safe, quality patient care. ACHC develops solutions trusted by healthcare providers nationwide and is committed to offering exceptional, personalized service, and a customized, collaborative accreditation experience tailored to individual needs. ACHC focuses on giving providers a positive, educational experience that continually enhances quality of care and business efficiencies.

Learn more about accreditation options from ACHC. For information on programs and accreditation pricing, please email customerservice@achc.org, call (855) 937-2242 or visit www.achc.org.