

Brewster Place Receives High Ranking in U.S. News Media Group's 2011 Best Nursing Homes

Washington D.C. - February 8, 2011- The **Brewster Health Center**, the skilled nursing and rehab facility at Brewster Place Retirement Community, has received a high ranking of five stars overall in *U.S. News & World Report's* ranking of the "2011 Best Nursing Homes", available online at www.usnews.com/nursinghomes. It is the only nursing facility in Shawnee County to receive a five star ranking.

The rankings highlight facilities across the nation providing high-quality care and are a worthwhile tool for millions of elderly Americans and their families in search of a nursing home.

U.S. News's Best Nursing Homes profiles more than 15,000 facilities and ranks them by state, using data and quality ratings from the federal government. The rankings are updated quarterly.

The rankings rely on information from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the federal agency that sets and enforces quality standards for all homes enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid. Homes receive an overall rating of one to five stars from the government based on the number of stars earned in three other categories: health inspections, nurse staffing, and quality of care.

"We are absolutely dedicated to the health and well being of our elders and we are proud to be recognized with this ranking," said Linda Farrar, Chief Operating Officer for Brewster Place. "As anyone in the health care field or with a loved one in a nursing home knows, this kind of reputation for excellence is the result of a great deal of attention to detail, a wonderful team of caregivers and a passion for providing compassionate care of our elders. Brewster Place will continue to strive to achieve and exceed the standards we have set for ourselves."

Brewster Place Press Release
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Facilities that ranked highest in Best Nursing Homes 2011 earned overall five-star ratings. Only about one home in seven met this standard and only 54 in the state of Kansas.

"Choosing a nursing home for your parent or loved one is incredibly difficult," says Avery Comarow, Health Rankings Editor at U.S. News & World Report. "Homes at the top of our rankings have repeatedly shown high quality and deserve consideration."

The Brewster Health Center is also a three time winner of the Kansas Department on Aging PEAK award for person centered care, the only facility in Shawnee County ever to win the award. An addition to the award winning center is currently under construction. When completed later this year the new Rehab Center at Brewster Place will provide inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation and restorative nursing services and will add aqua-therapy services with a new state of the art aqua-therapy pool.

Methodology

For the rankings, *U.S. News* uses data from Nursing Home Compare, a web site run by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (Retirement and assisted-living communities are not ranked; they aren't part of Medicare or Medicaid and don't offer medical services such as 24-hour nursing care.) CMS assigns an overall rating of one to five stars to each nursing home. The rating is based on the number of stars in three other categories: health inspections, nurse staffing, and quality of care. Each quarter, *U.S. News* releases state rankings; within states, homes are organized in tiers by CMS's star rating. Special recognition is given to Honor Roll homes, which stand out for achieving perfect five-star ratings in all three categories for four consecutive quarters.