



For Immediate Release

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**Governor's Panel on Excellence in Long-Term Care Awards Fifth
Consecutive Gold Seal to Morse Geriatric Center**

West Palm Beach, FL, (December 19, 2014) – In its renewal application, MorseLife continues to maintain its Gold Seal Award from the State of Florida, *The Governor's Panel on Excellence in Long-Term Care*. The nonprofit senior care continuum has achieved this honor annually since 2009, reflecting the level of care provided in its 160 bed long-term care residence, MorseLife Geriatric Center, and its 120 bed short-term rehabilitation residence, the Sondra and David S. Mack Pavilion.

The Gold Seal Award program, established by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) in 2002, recognizes Florida nursing homes that consistently demonstrate exceptionally high standards and quality of care.

MorseLife has met the following criteria to receive the Gold Seal Award:

- Maintains a quality of care scoring and ranking that places it in the top 10% in its region or top 15% in the state and is a 5-star ranked facility in the Nursing Home Guide.
- Has no Class I or II deficiencies within 30 months preceding its application.
- Provides evidence of financial soundness and stability.
- Participates in a consumer satisfaction process involving residents, family members and guardians.
- Involves families and members of the community in the facility on a regular basis.
- Has a stable workforce.

- Has an outstanding record with the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Council within the 30 months preceding its application
- Provides targeted in-service training to meet training need identified.

Upon receiving the award, Keith A. Myers, president/CEO for MorseLife, praised staff at all levels for the achievement. "Receiving the Gold Seal Award once again and being named among a mere 2% of nearly 700 Florida nursing homes that receive this honor, is an ongoing testament to the level of excellence our entire staff has in their care of our residents," said Myers. "We remain committed to being a center of excellence in the care of seniors, and our ongoing goal has always been to not merely meet, but exceed the expectations of our residents and families."

Myers noted that this honor represents "our ongoing commitment to continuing to demonstrate best practices in caring for the cherished seniors of our community."

The Gold Seal Award program is developed and implemented by the Governor's Panel on Excellence in Long-Term Care, which is composed of persons appointed by the Governor's Office, Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), Department of Health, Department of Elder Affairs, Florida Association of Homes for the Aging, Florida Health Care Association, Florida Life Care Residents Association and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

For information about MorseLife and its Gold Seal Award, call (561) 687-5749, or visit our MorseLife website at www.morselife.org.

About MorseLife

MorseLife is a nationally-recognized provider of exceptional care for seniors in Palm Beach County. A charitable, not-for-profit organization, its programs include short-term rehabilitation, long term care, independent and assisted living, home care, geriatric care management, and meals-on-wheels. Founded in 1983, MorseLife has built a reputation and tradition of caring for seniors with excellence, dignity and compassion. For more information, visit www.morselife.org.

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