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Ministry Partners: The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Benedictine Health System

Nazareth Living Center Earns 2017 Silver National Quality Award

St. Louis, MO – Nazareth Living Center, located at 2 Nazareth Lane in south St. Louis County, has received the prestigious **2017 Silver – National Achievement in Quality Award** from the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL).

Nazareth is the only senior retirement community in St. Louis to receive this award and is one of only four in the state of Missouri and 191 in the United States to be honored at the Silver level this year. The national award recognizes providers that demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the quality of care for residents and patients in long-term and post-acute care centers and communities.

Nazareth Living Center is highly regarded for exceptional care. It has earned a Five-Star Medicare rating for seven years in a row, and is recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top nursing homes in the nation. The Catholic, nonprofit senior community offers independent senior living apartments, long-term skilled nursing care, assisted living, memory care, and rehabilitation services. It recently completed a multi-million dollar construction and renovation project to enhance services and expand assisted living/memory care and skilled nursing facilities as well as independent living apartments.

AHCA/NCAL's National Quality Award Program challenges member providers to achieve performance excellence through three progressive levels — Bronze, Silver, and Gold. At the Silver level, members develop and demonstrate effective approaches that help improve performance and health care outcomes. The quality program is based on the core values and criteria of the *Baldrige Performance Excellence Program*, which is also the foundation of the metric-based AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative. Nazareth earned the Bronze Award level in 2015. Now that it also has been honored with the Silver Award, it can now advance to develop approaches that meet the higher criteria for the AHCA/NCAL's **Gold — Excellence in Quality Award**.

"This program helped us focus on effectively applying the Baldrige quality criteria to all aspects of our organization in order to ensure continued excellence in the quality of our services and facilities," said Ron Mantia, Chief Executive Officer of Nazareth Living Center. "I am proud of all of our staff and employees who consistently exceed expectations and put our residents first in everything they do."

The awards will be presented to honorees during AHCA/NCAL's 68th Annual Convention & Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 15-18, 2017.

About Nazareth Living Center — Nazareth Living Center was founded in 1872 by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet to provide care for retired and infirm sisters. Their mission expanded in 1992 to provide quality senior care services to the broader community. In 2009, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet of St. Louis entered into a ministry agreement with the Benedictine Health System of Duluth, MN, to provide holistic care for people of all faiths, races and socio-economic backgrounds. Visit NazarethLivingCenter.com.

ABOUT AHCA/NCAL — The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) represent more than 13,000 non-profit and proprietary skilled nursing centers, assisted living communities, sub-acute centers and homes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. By delivering solutions for quality care, AHCA/NCAL aims to improve the lives of the millions of frail, elderly and individuals with disabilities who receive long term or post-acute care in our member facilities each day. For more information, please visit www.ahca.org or www.ncal.org.