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ROOSEVELT CARE CENTER AT OLD BRIDGE

RAISES THE INDUSTRY'S BAR FOR ECO-PLANNING AND DESIGN

OLD BRIDGE - Just one month after opening its doors to residents, Roosevelt Care Center at Old Bridge, Middlesex County's newest long-term care facility, is setting a precedent for the industry.

In early January, architects first notified Roosevelt's administration that the facility had met all the criteria to become a Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified building – the first designation of its kind for a long-term care facility in New Jersey.

Leonard J. Roseman, Chairman of the Middlesex County Improvement Authority that operates Roosevelt Care Center at Old Bridge, commented "This certification is particularly meaningful because it confirms our commitment to serving the residents of Middlesex County and at the same time conserving energy and improving the environment."

As an internationally recognized mark of excellence, LEED provides building owners and operators with the framework for identifying and implementing measurable green building designs, construction, operations and maintenance, according to the U.S. Green Building Council, the organization charged with approving certifications.

This certification requires an independent party to verify that a building, home or community has been designed and built using strategies aimed at achieving high performance in key areas of human and environmental health. These elements range from sustainable site development to water savings to energy efficiency to material selection to indoor environmental quality. There are set benchmarks in which to measure these LEED levels with designations of certified, silver, gold and platinum.

For this 180-bed, approximately 105,000-square-foot facility in Old Bridge, these efforts translated into an extensive recycling protocol and the installation of structural, mechanical and electrical energy conservation systems.

"We have set the bar high in nearly every facet of this operation – from the brick and mortar to the service offered here at Roosevelt Care Center at Old Bridge," said Administrator John M. Sedor. "We plan to have an impact on the residents of Middlesex County, just not with our carbon footprint."

Roosevelt's measures for meeting Gold LEED certification standards included:

- More than 50 percent of construction waste was recycled and diverted from landfills.
- An irrigation system was designed to save more than 63 percent of potable water usage.
- Insulated solar reflecting glass in windows and solar reflective shingles add to an already highly efficient HVAC system.
- Many of the building's components were regionally harvested and manufactured and made up of recycled materials.
- Outdoor ventilation monitoring and building materials that are virtually contaminant-free contribute to the building's superior indoor air quality.
- Task and ambient lighting installation allows for higher levels of control, while minimizing energy usage.

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