

For Immediate Release
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Local Contact: Tyler Bartlett, Administrator
843-766-5228

NHC HealthCare, Charleston Earns 2017 Bronze National Quality Award

Charleston, South Carolina – NHC HealthCare, Charleston has been recognized as a 2017 recipient of the *Bronze – Commitment to Quality Award* for its dedication to improving the lives of residents through quality care. The distinction is one of three progressive award levels through the National Quality Award Program, presented by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), the leading association for long term and post-acute care. The program honors association members across the nation that have demonstrated their commitment to improving quality of care for seniors and persons with disabilities.

“It’s an honor to be recognized for our commitment to delivering quality care,” said Tyler Bartlett, Administrator of NHC HealthCare, Charleston. “Going through the process of achieving the Bronze award has made our organization stronger.”

The [National Quality Award Program](#), which AHCA/NCAL established in 1996, 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](#). The Baldrige program helps organizations in different business sectors improve and achieve performance excellence.

The Award Program has three levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Providers begin the quality improvement process at the Bronze level, where they develop an organizational profile with essential performance elements such as vision, mission statement, and key strengths and challenges. Bronze applicants must also demonstrate their ability to implement a performance improvement system. Trained Examiners review each Bronze application to determine if the center has met the demands of the criteria. As a recipient of the *Bronze - Commitment to Quality Award*, NHC HealthCare, Charleston may now move forward in developing approaches and achieving performance levels that meet the *Silver - Achievement in Quality Award* criteria.

“I commend NHC HealthCare, Charleston for embarking on the journey to quality improvement,” said the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Board of Overseers Chair Alana Wolfe. “I encourage NHC HealthCare, Charleston to continue to build on the strong foundation it has created.”

The awards will be presented during AHCA/NCAL’s 68th Annual Convention and Exposition in Las Vegas, Nevada, October 15-18, 2017.

ABOUT NHC HealthCare, Charleston

NHC HealthCare, Charleston is an affiliate of National HealthCare Corporation (NHC). Since 1971, National HealthCare Corporation has combined exceptional care with a compassionate focus on patients and their families. Throughout the Southeast, our affiliated centers provide rehabilitation care as well as skilled nursing care, homecare, hospice, residential and assisted living services - all close to you and your family. With over 150 centers in 10 states, NHC is delivering the highest level of care, pioneering new approaches and celebrating achievements from the commitment that has guided us throughout our 40 years and continue to lead us forward.

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.