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## Brewster Place Joins COLLAGE, The Art & Science of Healthy Aging®

Topeka, KS – Brewster Place (www.brewsterplace.org), a not-for-profit continuing care community based in Topeka, Kansas, has joined COLLAGE, The Art & Science of Healthy Aging®, a national consortium of aging services organizations using a holistic, evidence-based assessment system to improve healthy aging outcomes and quality of life.

"We are excited to be a part of the COLLAGE consortium," said David Beck, President and CEO of Brewster Place. "The COLLAGE program is an essential tool in Brewster's plan to develop a culture of wellness on our campus, develop our at-home services in the larger community, and to develop a care transitions interventions program. We see COLLAGE serving as an excellent quality measure for us and as a unifying element as our nation's health care system shifts its emphasis to wellness and preventative services."

The COLLAGE assessment system is being used by a consortium of organizations across the country working to advance healthy aging and improve health outcomes of older adults living independently. Members of the consortium -- continuing care communities, moderate-income and federally subsidized housing programs, and home care and community-based agencies believe that measuring outcomes is critical; without outcomes, organizations don't know whether their programs are having the intended impact on residents and community.

"You can't get to quality without having an evidence-based assessment system to track and measure healthy aging outcomes. Brewster Place really understands that they must have the right tools to partner with older people in their quest to age successfully, and we welcome them with open arms," said Beryl Goldman, Director of Kendal Outreach, LLC and COLLAGE. "We are thrilled that David Beck and his organization see the COLLAGE assessment system as a mission-critical investment in quality and accountability."

Valid and reliable assessment data leads to: 1) the development of personalized healthy aging plans for individuals, and 2) a methodology to target the right programs and services to best match needs for a campus or community. This two-level approach enables individuals to take charge of their own healthy aging and allows organizations to focus aging support resources appropriately for their community.

Initiated in 2003, COLLAGE is a joint venture between Kendal Outreach, LLC, (www.kendaloutreach.org), a subsidiary of Kendal, and the Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife (www.hebrewseniorlife.org), a Massachusetts not-for-profit corporation affiliated with Harvard Medical School.

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