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## **COLLAGE and Mennonite Health Services Alliance Sign Agreement**

In January, COLLAGE, a program developed by Kendal Outreach, LLC and The Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife, reached an important agreement with Mennonite Health Services (MHS) Alliance. The agreement opens the door for MHS Alliance members to join COLLAGE at a multisite discount rate.

COLLAGE is a national membership consortium of older adult communities and aging services organizations committed to advancing healthy aging through the use of scientifically-grounded assessment tools and reports. COLLAGE assessment tools are exclusively used by members, and the data generated provides critical information to plan targeted programs and services, allocate appropriate resources, ensure quality and accountability, and advance individual and community well-being. Member organizations, using such data, improve their ability to advise individual residents/clients on matters of health, wellness and successful aging, and are able to develop stronger system-wide interventions and outcomes to advance healthy aging.

The MHS Alliance is a community of Anabaptist health and human service ministries with common ethical and spiritual values. It seeks to develop the capacity of health and human service providers. Alliance members have ongoing connections with founding churches including Mennonite Church USA, Mennonite Brethren US, and Brethren in Christ. Membership offers networking and collaboration with like-minded providers; best practice forums; worker's compensation, liability group discounts and self-funded employee health benefits; access to consulting services and links to other valuable resources.

One of the architects of the agreement, Keith Stuckey, Vice President of the MHS Alliance commented, "We are encouraged by what COLLAGE has been able to offer organizations across the country. Participating in the program has given communities the opportunity to collect and organize resident health and wellness data in one place, and has added a level of individual and program evaluation that they have never had. COLLAGE is committed and positioned well to help organizations advance their most important healthy aging goals. I would invite you to see if COLLAGE might help your organization better support the health and wellness of its residents by:

- Getting better acquainted with resident status at admission
- Measuring trends in resident health and wellness over time

- Benchmarking your campus health/wellness experience with that of other participant organizations
- Utilizing the information gained through COLLAGE in your decision making on actions to optimize resident health/wellness."

A meeting with MHS Alliance members is scheduled for their annual conference and exhibition in St. Louis, March 27 through 30.



A consortium dedicated to improving the lives of older adults through a suite of valid and reliable health and wellness assessment tools and information technology - on the web at collageaging.org.