

The Meth-Wick Community Joins COLLAGE, The Art & Science of Healthy Aging®

Cedar Rapids, IA – The Meth-Wick Community, a not-for-profit continuing care community based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 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.

“The Meth-Wick Community is excited to partner with COLLAGE,” said Eryn Cronbaugh, Director of Wellness and Recreation, The Meth-Wick Community. “Joining the COLLAGE consortium gives us a framework as we strive to live out our mission, which includes enriching the quality of our residents’ lives as they age. We understand the value of using an evidence-based assessment system to assist our residents in living successful healthy lifestyles. We believe the program will help us focus on individual resident needs while providing information that will benefit the community as a whole. Our hope is that residents will be more actively engaged in their own well-being, which will lead to improvements in healthy aging for each individual in our entire community.”

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.

"Aging services organizations understand that they must have the right tools to partner with older people in their quest to age successfully, and The Meth-Wick Community really understands this," said Beryl Goldman, Director of Kendal Outreach, LLC and COLLAGE. "We are thrilled that The Meth-Wick has joined the COLLAGE family of organizations and sees the COLLAGE assessment system as a bridge to improve healthy aging and is mission critical."

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.

More information is available from:

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