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**FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE**

**Pines Village Retirement Communities Joins  
COLLAGE, The Art & Science of Healthy Aging®**



Valparaiso, IN – Pines Village Retirement Communities, Inc., a not-for-profit retirement continuing care community in Valparaiso, Indiana, has joined COLLAGE, The Art & Science of Healthy Aging, a national consortium of aging services organization using a holistic, evidence-based assessment system to improve healthy aging outcomes and quality of life.

"Pines Village has always been a trendsetter in the development and implementation of services for older adults," says Lu Krieger-Blake, MSW, LCSW, Social Worker, Pines Village Retirement Communities. "As the first community in Indiana to join the COLLAGE consortium, we continue that rich tradition of leadership in providing enhanced services to our residents and our community. We anticipate that the Healthy Aging Plan developed from the COLLAGE assessment system will provide our residents the motivation and resources they need to live even more successfully."

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 -- agree that measuring outcomes is critical, and that without outcomes, organizations don't know whether their programs are having the intended impact on residents.

"Pines Village understands the value that COLLAGE will bring to build a successful pathway to helping older adults in their community flourish" said Beryl Goldman, Director of Kendal Outreach, LLC, and COLLAGE. "It's exciting that Pines Village has joined the COLLAGE family of organizations and sees the assessment system as a mission critical and a bridge to improve healthy aging."

"Being part of the COLLAGE consortium will give us the additional advantage of being able to access information from other consortium members to help us compare ourselves against national benchmarks of communities similar to our own. This partnership further advances our mission – we celebrate life by enriching the lives of older adults."

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, a subsidiary of Kendal, and the Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife, a Massachusetts not-for-profit corporation affiliated with Harvard Medical School.

More information is available from:

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