

Artesian Home Earns 2016 Bronze National Quality Award

Ardmore, OK – Artesian Home has been recognized as a 2016 recipient of the *Bronze – Commitment to Quality Award* for its dedication to improving the lives of residents through quality care. The award is the first of three distinctions possible 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 providers 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 the hard work and quality of care our team provides every day,” said Linda Byrd, Administrator of Artesian Home. “We are committed to providing high-quality, person-centered care to our residents and their families. We will never stop improving.”

Implemented by AHCA/NCAL in 1996, the [National Quality Award Program](#) is centered on the core values and criteria of the *Baldrige Performance Excellence Program*, which is the foundation of the metric-based [AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative](#). The program assists providers of long term and post-acute care services in achieving their performance excellence goals.

The 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 and mission statements and an assessment of customers’ expectations. 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*, Southbrook may now move forward in developing approaches and achieving performance levels that meet the criteria required for the *Silver - Achievement in Quality Award*.

“I applaud the women and men of Artesian Home for their commitment to improve quality care,” said the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Board of Overseers Chair Christine Boldt. “This award is the first step in a program that serves as an essential guide to performance excellence. I encourage Artesian Home to continue their quality journey.”

The awards will be presented during AHCA/NCAL’s 67th Annual Convention and Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee, October 16-19, 2016.

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.