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## **Four Iowa long-term care facilities recognized with national Achievement in Quality Silver Award**

**West Des Moines, Iowa** – The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) recently announced the recipients of the 2024 Silver – Achievement in Quality Award. Good Samaritan Society - Le Mars (Le Mars), Sibley Specialty Care (Sibley), Silvercrest Garner Farms (Davenport) and Sunrise Terrace Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (Winfield) were recognized by AHCA/NCAL with this award.

The AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program honors long-term and post-acute care providers that have demonstrated their commitment to improving the quality of care for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

"These four facilities have consistently met increasingly rigorous performance standards to elevate the quality of care within their organizations," said Brenda Irlbeck, vice president of quality improvement and regulatory compliance for the Iowa Health Care Association. "Achieving the Silver Award level while compassionately protecting and caring for fellow Iowans is truly remarkable. This prestigious recognition highlights their unwavering dedication to excellence and their heartfelt commitment to improving the lives of those they serve."

Out of the 139 total award recipients in 31 states, 98 were skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), 16 were assisted living (AL) facilities and 25 had combined AL/SNF programs.

The National Quality Award Program is a rigorous process, made up of three levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold – that are reviewed and judged by trained experts against a set of nationally recognized standards for organizational excellence. The Silver Award is the second of three distinctions possible through the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program. At the Silver level, members develop and demonstrate effective approaches that help improve organizational performance and health care outcomes. Silver recipients may move forward in developing approaches and achieving performance levels that meet the criteria required for the AHCA/NCAL Gold – Excellence in Quality Award.

The awards program is based on the core values and criteria of the *Baldrige Performance Excellence Program*, which also serves as the foundation for the metric-based AHCA/NCAL Quality Initiative. The Baldrige framework helps organizations among different business sectors improve organizational effectiveness and achieve strategy-driven performance.

On May 30, AHCA/NCAL [announced](#) 33 Iowa long-term care facilities had earned the Bronze – Commitment to Quality Award. Winners of the 2024 Gold – Excellence in Quality Award will be announced in August.

### ***About the Iowa Health Care Association***

The Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) and its divisions, Iowa Center for Assisted Living (ICAL) and Iowa Center for Home Care (IHC) represent organizations that provide long-term care to Iowans through nursing facilities, assisted living, residential care, senior living communities, home health agencies and care continuum communities.

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