



SALEM COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

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A NEW DAY DAWNS FOR A COUNTY INSTITUTION

Salem County Nursing Home Becomes Golden Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

The Salem County Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, located at 438 Salem-Woodstown Road in Mannington now bears a new name, a new logo and a new energy. Earlier today ownership of the facility was transferred from the Salem County Improvement Authority (SCIA) to SKG Realty Associates, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of BSD Entities. BSD Entities owns and operates three other skilled nursing facilities in the state which are located in Carney's Point, Vineland and Old Bridge. SCIA and SKG worked closely during the 11-7 shift on May 31 to assure a smooth and orderly transition for residents and staff. The final transfer of day to day operations occurred at 7:00 am on June 1.

The facility has been re-named "Golden Rehabilitation and Nursing Center" and will provide continued, uninterrupted services for current residents throughout the transition. Sam Handler will be the Administrator of the site and will oversee day to day operations for SKG and will lead a highly competent team of professionals.

"Response from the surrounding region to our employment needs has been tremendous," stated Neil Kerman of SKG. "We are very pleased with the quality and quantity of applicants for employment. This staff will allow us to continue the commitment to provide a high degree of care that has been the cornerstone of this facility."

80% of the employees formerly employed by SCIA at the facility who sought re-employment at the nursing home were re-hired by the new owner. SCIA has provided assistance through the New Jersey Department of Labor's Rapid Response Team and the Salem County One-Stop Career Services Center to those staff members who have opted to pursue other career choices or who were not re-hired by the new owners. Approximately 10 SCIA employees have elected to retire under the Public Employees Retirement System.

SCIA staff at the facility was honored with a farewell breakfast/luncheon yesterday. Hugs were exchanged and tears shed by those saying good-bye to the residents and their co-workers. SCIA Chairman, Michael Burke commended Michael Vizoco, the outgoing Administrator and the rest of the staff at the Salem County Nursing Home for their many years of service to the residents of the nursing home.

"These employees have continued to provide excellent care to the residents of the nursing home during a very personally challenging time and did so with the utmost professionalism. We sincerely appreciate their dedication and wish them the very best in their future endeavors."

The New Jersey Department of Health and Social Services approved the transfer of the nursing home license on May 20, 2011 thus paving the way for SCIA to proceed with the sale of the 116 bed facility. SCIA has received \$7.5 million from the sale of the nursing home and is expected to save nearly \$3.5 million per year in operating costs. Additionally, the private owners will now begin to pay real estate taxes on the

facility which has been tax exempt since it began operation in 1973 by the County of Salem and since 2008 when the SCIA assumed ownership.

"The sale of the Salem County Nursing and Rehabilitation Home to an experienced, compassionate private nursing home operator stands as a model for local and county governments seeking creative and cost-effective measures to improve the quality of services provided to local residents while seeking financially responsible approaches to delivering those services the local taxpayers," stated Bruce Bobbitt, Freeholder liaison for the SCIA.

Neil Kerman of SKG commented, "It was a true pleasure working with the members and staff of the Salem County Improvement Authority to make the transition to Golden Rehabilitation and Nursing Center go smoothly. We are looking forward to working with the community to make this a facility that everyone can be proud of. Our plans to renovate and improve the building and equipment will begin in the very near future,"

SKG is also planning to hold community outreach meetings and open houses for potential residents and their families."

"This facility has always provided a high quality of care for the residents and we are confident that the new owners will not only continue that high degree of service, but will also provide the facility upgrades that are so desperately needed.", stated Michael Burke, Chairman of the SCIA.

For more information about Golden Rehabilitation and Nursing Center please call (856) 935-6677.

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