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**Annandale Village Receives “Green Light” to Expand Services and Facilities
for Aging Adults with Developmental Disabilities**

Suwanee, GA, November 2, 2011 - Officials of Annandale Village announced today that the Georgia Department of Community Health has approved its Certificate of Need application to expand programs and services for aging adults with developmental disabilities. The approved application effectively “green lights” Annandale’s decade-long vision to double the number of individuals served at its nationally recognized D. Scott Hudgens Center for Skilled Nursing.

As a result, Annandale will completely renovate and expand the existing Laura Grier Center for Special Care and the D. Scott Hudgens Center for Skilled Nursing to accommodate an additional 16 skilled nursing beds. In addition, Annandale will break ground on the construction of a new one-story assisted living center to meet the needs of individuals experiencing a decrease in independent living skills due to aging and/or characteristics of their disability. The new facility will be designed to support 16 residents in private and semi-private rooms.

In Georgia, the disability population has nearly doubled in the last decade and is growing at a much faster rate than the population of Georgia as a whole. Despite the large number of nursing homes in Georgia, Annandale’s D. Scott Hudgens Center is the only skilled nursing facility in Georgia dedicated to the unique needs of, or has the specialized resources to adequately care for aging adults with developmental disabilities. Yet, the Center has operated at full capacity for the past two years. Options in nursing care for adults with developmental disabilities is so limited there is a waiting list for skilled nursing beds not only from Annandale’s own Personal Care Home population, but potential clients throughout the country.

“The courage to dream big and the need to do more for those we currently serve and for those who will soon seek our assistance has made this an exciting time in the life of our organization”, said Adam Pomeranz, chief executive officer of Annandale Village. “With the application process behind us, we can now plan for a new decade of specialized services and programming to elevate Annandale Village to higher levels of performance and prominence,” Pomeranz added.

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ABOUT ANNANDALE VILLAGE AND THE D. SCOTT HUDGENS CENTER FOR SKILLED NURSING

Located on a beautiful 54-acre campus in Suwanee, Georgia, Annandale Village is an award-winning nonprofit organization dedicated solely to serving adults with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. Characteristically, individuals served at Annandale Village are 18 years of age or older with a primary diagnosis of mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, other developmental disability, or have experienced a traumatic brain injury. Annandale Village is the only nonprofit in the state of Georgia to offer residential living and training alternatives that provide a continuum of service and care for adults with developmental disabilities.

Annandale Village offers a comprehensive range of residential and non-residential programs to help men and women lead lives that reflect quality, value, self worth, and achievement. Our programs and services are designed to improve the quality of life of each individual served, according to his or her own unique needs and abilities.

The mission of Annandale Village is to perpetuate a Village community to provide progressive life assistance to adults with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injuries so that they can maximize their abilities and maintain their independence in the least restrictive environment.

In 2000, thanks to a transformative donation from the D. Scott Hudgens Family Foundation, Annandale established the Laura Grier Center for Special Care, including the D. Scott Hudgens Center for Skilled Nursing. Today, the D. Scott Hudgens Center for Skilled Nursing is the only nursing home in Georgia whose staff is specially trained to care for adults with developmental disabilities. In 2010 and 2011, US News & World Report named the Center one of the “Best Nursing Homes” in the United States. Of more than 15,000 nursing homes evaluated, the Center ranked among the top 1% of all nursing homes for quality of service and care.

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