

# A Publication of Presbyterian Homes

## Why CCAC Accreditation Is Important

by Theresa P. Paulin

According to an article in The Chicago Tribune, “The Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC) accredits continuing care retirement communities. Their standards are fairly strict, so this is often a good test of the community’s overall caliber.”

As the nation’s only accrediting body for non-profit and for-profit continuing care retirement communities, CARF/CCAC helps promote and maintain quality and disclosure in the retirement industry. Essentially, an accredited organization lives up to its own mission, strives for excellence in its services, ensures that its programs and practices are innovative, and follows an appropriate and achievable plan for the future.

Presbyterian Homes earned accreditation by CARF/CCAC for each of its communities: Westminster Place in Evanston, Lake Forest Place, The Moorings of Arlington Heights, and King Home and Ten Twenty Grove in Evanston.

“Presbyterian Homes is pleased to again receive this ‘seal of approval’ for continuing care retirement communities,” said Peter Mulvey, President and CEO of Presbyterian Homes. “Older adults exploring retirement community options should use the accreditation standard as a way to identify those organizations that are successful in providing excellence in the senior industry.”

The four Presbyterian Homes communities are among the 14 retirement communities in Illinois to receive this recognition. This is the fourth time Presbyterian Homes has been accredited since the establishment of the Commission in 1985. The accreditation extends through 2010. Of the approximately 2,200 continuing care retirement communities in the country, only about 350 are accredited.

“More than a seal of approval, receiving CCAC accreditation means that we have the organization-wide commitment to provide older adults with outstanding retirement communities,” Mulvey added.

Presbyterian Homes met or exceeded all the Commission’s standards of excellence in the areas of governance and administration; financial resources; and resident life, health and wellness. Presbyterian Homes’ residents, board of directors and staff all participated in the accreditation process.

