

Palace ranked top center in Miami

U.S. News & World Report, the prestigious news and consumer magazine, has ranked The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Kendall as the top nursing home in Miami-Dade County.

The community, owned and operated by The Palace Management Group, one of South Florida's leading companies specializing in senior housing and care, was compared to nine other facilities throughout the county.

The report, "America's Best Nursing Homes", was created by U.S. News & World Report to help the families and friends of the 3.2 million Americans that will spend at least some time in a nursing home.

"The new rankings are built atop the data and rankings found on Nursing Home Compare, a federal website created by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)," reported Avery Camarow in the March 11, 2009 posting of the data. "The agency collects and analyzes information on more than 15,000 nursing homes that accept Medicare or Medicaid residents and rates the facilities on numerous measures from safe food preparation to the amount of nursing care per resident."

The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center received

five stars in the overall rating, health inspections and quality measures categories and four stars in nurse staffing.

"Being recognized by U.S. News & World Reports is validation that we are excelling at serving our area seniors and their families," said Helen Shaham, president of The Palace Management Group. "It's a testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees."

In December, 2008, the community also received the five-star rating—tops in the nation as selected by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the federal administrative support agency for the 65-and-older U.S. citizen.

Health inspections included approximately 180 care aspects, judged during on-site visits by trained inspection teams that check quality, review medical records and individually interviewed residents.

Former Administrator of The Palace Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Lily Patterson, who now manages the company's Palace Renaissance and Royale assisted living communities said the recognition is an acknowledgement of the team effort that is required.

Emphasis was placed on training and education as well as in

staffing—which exceeded the required staff to patient ratio—wound care and rehabilitation.

Last year the community underwent an extensive refurbishment and new, state-of-the-art equipment was installed. Additionally, services were expanded to include a specialization in orthopedics and opening the Center to the general public for outpatient services such as physical, occupational and speech therapies.

In addition to the Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, The Palace's continuum of care includes The Palace Suites, a luxurious independent living community; The Palace Royale, a "catered living" community; The Palace Renaissance, an assisted living community; The Palace Gardens, an assisted living community in Homestead; The Palace at Home, a Medicare-certified home health agency; The Palace at Weston, luxury living for those 55 and over; and Palace Tel-Aviv, a continuing care retirement community in Israel. Their two newest projects, The Palace at Weston Senior Living and The Palace at Coral Gables, are under development.

For information about The Palace's communities, please call (305) 270-7000 or visit www.thepalace.org.