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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Wartburg Adult Care Community Receives NY State HEAL Grant**

(October 4, 2010-Mount Vernon, NY) The Wartburg Adult Care Community in Mount Vernon, NY announces it has been awarded a \$27,590,000 NY State HEAL NY grant.

“The HEAL grant process was extremely competitive and The Wartburg Adult Care Community was one of only nine facilities in the state awarded this grant, so we are fortunate to have been selected.” said David Gentner, Interim President and CEO. “This funding will allow The Wartburg to reposition its service offering so it can continue to serve low to moderate income seniors in innovative settings, and to do so more efficiently.”

The Wartburg’s planned projects include a new rehabilitation-focused skilled nursing building that also constructs modern space for Adult Day Programs. Ryan Herchenroether, The Wartburg’s Corporate Planner, said, “Our purpose is to provide care that enables seniors to remain as independent as possible. Both programs to be located in the new rehab building achieve that important objective. By increasing our concentration on rehabilitation services, we can help people return to the community and their normal routines. Our additional goal is to incorporate a vibrant Adult Day Center that provides an inviting gathering space for activities and therapies, allowing people to remain in the home of their choosing.”

Also included in the plan is the construction of a separate 60-unit affordable housing building with supportive services for seniors. Mr. Herchenroether said, “The Wartburg is proud to respond to the overwhelming need for senior housing in Mount Vernon. With the existing resources on our campus and the community connections we’ve made over the past 140 years, we can provide an excellent supportive environment for local seniors.”

The New York State Department of Health awarded nine health care facilities and agencies grants totaling more than \$150 million to improve long-term care services and develop community-based alternatives to traditional nursing home care for older New Yorkers through Phase 20 of the Health Care Efficiency and Affordability Law of New York State (HEAL NY) and the Federal-State Reform Partnership (F-SHRP).

"Many New Yorkers are looking for alternatives to care provided in traditional nursing home settings," said State Health Commissioner Richard F. Daines, M.D. "These grants will help maintain nursing home beds for those who need them while supporting the development of additional community-based options, such as Assisted Living Residences and other housing configurations that provide coordinated medical services."

DASNY President Paul T. Williams, Jr., said: "New Yorkers are demanding alternatives as they consider the long-term health care needs of their loved ones. These grants will not only help develop facilities in response to those demands but they will also help maintain a high level of care at existing traditional nursing home facilities."

The awards are the result of a competitive grant opportunity offered by the Department of Health and the Dormitory Authority of New York State to fund projects that maintain access to appropriately sized nursing home facilities while developing less restrictive options for New York's seniors.

The Wartburg Adult Care Community is a not-for-profit Lutheran ministry, serving people of all faiths with a full range of residential options and health-related services for older area adults and their families. The Wartburg offers skilled nursing care, rehabilitation, Alzheimer's and dementia care, assisted and independent living, adult day services, home care, memory care, pastoral care and monthly caregiver support groups. For more information about The Wartburg Adult Care Community, please call (914) 699-0800, email [info@thewartburg.org](mailto:info@thewartburg.org) or visit [www.thewartburg.org](http://www.thewartburg.org) .

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