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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### FIRST LEED-CERTIFIED SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT IN THE METRO AREA

Southview Senior Living is constructing what will be the Twin Cities' first LEED-certified senior housing project, Inver Glen Senior Living in Inver Grove Heights. Through careful adherence to the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED guidelines, the design and construction teams are working to reduce waste and pollution, save energy, provide a healthier and more comfortable interior environment, reduce long-term operating costs, and encourage users and visitors to do the same.

Southview Senior Living's owner, Lance Lemieux, says, "My family has been dedicated to the health of seniors my whole life. With our new LEED building, we're creating an even healthier environment for our clients. We're also proud to be doing our part to make a better world for our children."

The Southview Inver Glen team is using a variety of strategies to earn LEED points. Among them are:

- leaving the building site in a natural state to encourage growth of native flora and fauna.
- channeling storm water into ponds where it will filter back into the soil, instead of running off the site in erosion-producing gullies.
- using appliances and light fixtures that are Energy Star-rated
- choosing carpets, padding, paints, and adhesives with minimal toxic material content
- using only "green" cleaning products for routine cleaning

Many other strategies, both rudimentary and highly technical, will also be employed to reduce the building's impact on its internal and external environment.

Southview Senior Living's Inver Glen project is working to achieve LEED Silver certification. LEED, an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a system of rules and guidelines developed by the USGBC to reduce the impact of buildings on the environment and its inhabitants. Through adherence to specific LEED rules during design and construction of a building, the project team can achieve points, the accumulation of which can earn their building project one of four LEED certifications: Certified, Silver, Gold, or Platinum.

Though many of the strategies cost more initially, many costs will be paid back with long-term savings from reduced water and energy use.

Construction of Inver Glen Senior Living is scheduled to be completed in \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

Southview Senior Living has been a Twin Cities-based family-owned senior housing developer and manager since 1966.

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