

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CareSouth Homecare Professionals' Lexington Division Ranked Top 500 HomeCare Elite

LEXINGTON, NC, 10/19/2010 — CareSouth Homecare Professionals in Lexington today announced that it has been named one of the top 500 home health agencies in the country, according to the 2010 HomeCare Elite™. The Lexington home health care agency also maintains a branch location in Asheboro, North Carolina.

Now in its fifth year, the HomeCare Elite identifies the top 25 percent of agencies and further highlights the top 100 and top 500 agencies overall. Winners are ranked by an analysis of performance measures in quality outcomes, quality improvement, and financial performance.

In addition to the Lexington agency, nine CareSouth owned agencies and four CareSouth managed agencies ranked in 2010 HomeCare Elite. The top 500 CareSouth agencies are Elberton and Columbus, Georgia; Lexington and Greensboro, North Carolina; and Dothan, Alabama. Remaining CareSouth owned locations ranked are Winchester, Tennessee; Macon and Gainesville, Georgia; Valley, Alabama and Dallas, Texas. Of the CareSouth managed home health care facilities St. Joseph/Candler of Hinesville, Georgia ranked in the top 500. Remaining CareSouth managed facilities ranked 2010 HomeCare Elite are Crisp Regional Hospital/CareSouth in Cordele, Georgia; St. Joseph's / Candler Home Healthcare in Brunswick, Georgia; and Lawrence Home Care of Winchester in Tuckahoe, New York.

“The 2010 HomeCare Elite winners continue to demonstrate a commitment to providing their patients with the best possible care while performing at the highest level,” said Amanda Twiss, CEO of OCS HomeCare. “We congratulate CareSouth Homecare Professionals on being one of the top home care agencies in the country. In addition, we salute all forward-thinking providers who are already working on measuring and improving their performance using OASIS-C outcomes and process measures and HH-CAHPS results. This important data will also be used in identifying the HomeCare Elite in the future.”

CareSouth President and CEO, Rick Griffin, credits a company-wide ethos for quality customer service and comprehensive and consistent clinical training for the company's ability to rank among the HomeCare Elite. Griffin said, “Our employees rank among the finest in the country because every person in our company, from file clerk to RN, is dedicated to the notion that each client is the most important person in the room. With more than 80 percent of all our patients being served by HomeCare Elite agencies, we are assured that they will be given the highest quality service available.”

“On the fifth anniversary of HomeCare Elite, DecisionHealth would like to congratulate all of the winners who have achieved excellent clinical and financial outcomes, especially during times of such drastic regulatory changes,” added Marci Heydt, executive editor of DecisionHealth’s *Home Health Line*.

The 2010 HomeCare Elite is the only performance recognition of its kind in the home health industry. The 2010 HomeCare Elite is brought to the industry by OCS HomeCare, the leading provider of homecare information, and DecisionHealth, publisher of homecare’s most respected independent newsletter *Home Health Line*. The data used for this analysis were compiled from publicly available information. The entire list of the 2010 HomeCare Elite agencies can be viewed by visiting the OCS HomeCare website at www.ocshomecare.com.

CareSouth Homecare Professionals provides home health care services in eight states throughout the country, offering various programs and specialized services including fall prevention, total hip and knee orthopedic rehabilitation, wound care management, pulmonary disease and cardiovascular disease management. The CareSouth Homecare Professionals work closely with each patient's physician to ensure they are following the orders as prescribed by the physician. CareSouth is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Inc. For more information, visit our Website at www.caresouth.com.

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