

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2018

Contact: Lisa Sanders, lsanders@leadingage.org, 202-508-9407

Celebrate Dementia-Care Excellence at 2018 Great Minds Gala
Event Raises Funds for Alzheimer's Disease Awareness and Dementia-Care Programs

Washington -- On March 19, 2018, LeadingAge and Integrate together will honor the incredible achievements of three individuals and organizations that care for people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias every day at the 5th annual [Great Minds Gala](#) at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington D.C. The three awards presented include the national Excellence in Dementia Care Award, the Proxmire Advocacy Award, and the Exceptional Friend or Family Care Partner Award.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. By 2050, this number could rise as high as 16 million, according to the Alzheimer's Association. The illness is the 6th leading cause of death in America. According to the Family Caregiver Alliance, trying to create the best possible quality of life for an aging relative is "the new normal" for 43.5 million Americans.

The gala, a fundraising event held in conjunction with [LeadingAge's PEAK Leadership Summit](#), was created to help improve the care offered to people with Alzheimer's disease and the support options available for their caregivers. Sponsors include Marriott Washington Wardman Park, which is the event's Imagineer sponsor.

This year's recipient of the Excellence in Dementia Care Award is Kaukauna's own St. Paul Elder Services, Inc., whose innovative "Passages" program supports individuals as they experience various stages of dementia. Passages includes a wide variety of memory care-specific supportive services and living options across the entire care continuum. St. Paul Elder Services supports people living with dementia at each stage in the progression of the disease, and in whatever setting they prefer to call home. The result: the right amount of support at the right time for each person, who live with socialization, meaningful experiences, and interventions that allow for continued independence and maximum safety.

About LeadingAge

The mission of [LeadingAge](#) is to be the trusted voice for aging. Our 6,000+ members and partners nationwide include nonprofit organizations representing the entire field of aging services, 38 state associations, hundreds of businesses, consumer groups, foundations and research centers. LeadingAge is also a part of the Global Ageing Network, whose membership spans 30 countries. LeadingAge is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization focused on education, advocacy, and applied research.

About Integrate

[Integrate](#), headquartered in Carroll County, Maryland, is a forward thinking not-for-profit company of dynamic retirement communities, including Fairhaven, Buckingham's Choice, and Bayleigh Chase (formerly William Hill Manor). Each community offers a vibrant lifestyle that includes health and wellness programming such as yoga, rehabilitative care, personal trainers, and on-site wellness centers.

Integrace is also a nationally recognized leader in dementia care and programming. Copper Ridge, the Copper Ridge Institute, and Bayleigh Chase (formerly William Hill Manor) are all catalysts to a profound shift in how individuals live with, and relate to, those living with dementia.

About St. Paul Elder Services, Inc.

Founded in 1943 by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, [St. Paul Elder Services](#) delivers a full complement of compassionate care to successfully meet the health needs of older adults in the greater Fox Valley area. From community education to hospice services to memory care, and everything in between, we are here to provide a continuum of care that enriches the lives of those we serve, both within our facilities and within the community. Each program and facility has been designed to experience a seamless transition from one stage of care to the next. We take great pride in the compassionate care we provide and the expertise we bring to caring for each person. St. Paul Elder Services serves over 2,000 individuals annually and employs nearly 400 professional caregivers and support personnel.

For additional comments, please contact:

Sondra Norder, President & CEO, St. Paul Elder Services, Inc., sondran@stpaulelders.org. (920) 766-6020 ext. 170

John Sauer, President & CEO, LeadingAge Wisconsin (state affiliate), jsauer@leadingagewi.org, (608) 255-7060

###