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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Memory Care Community to Open at The Kenney
First Resident to Move in January 20th

For the past few months, The Kenney campus has been bustling with activity from construction workers and architects engineering the new Memory Care Community. With excitement and anticipation, this latest addition will be welcoming its first resident on January 20, 2012.

“We are very pleased with how the area is coming together,” says Karlene Colletti, Director of Memory Care. “From the warmth of the paint colors, to the textures of the décor, to the accessibility of the rooms and community spaces – it is going to be an amazing addition to The Kenney campus.”

The Memory Care Community will offer 16 beds in both private and shared apartments, an outdoor garden, a large dining and activity room, a private shower room and a family room. Every detail of the area was completed keeping in mind the ability of residents with dementia who will use this space day in and day out.

“Every effort has been made to enhance the community with natural colors and lighting to encourage a sense of serenity” says Karlene. “The wide hallways make it safe and easy for ambulation, and the garden area will allow for safe strolls, gardening and general enjoyment of the outdoors.”

One of the most important aspects of memory care is programming, and The Kenney is proud to use a collaborative approach to maximize the quality of life for each resident. The innovative programming allows the caregivers to provide uniquely designed care for each resident. Small group activities, nutritious meals and special reminiscing programs will activate the senses and encourage normalcy.

“We will work with residents and their families to obtain a portrait of the resident; past present and future,” says Karlene. “A main approach in this is using validation therapy, working with the individuals needs here and now. As the care requirements of an individual with Alzheimer’s or dementia can change day to day, our program will be established to meet those needs in the best way possible.”

The Memory Care Community will be staffed 24-hours a day by certified nursing assistants with specialized dementia training, hand picked for their ability to understand and work with people with memory issues. The staff will provide an atmosphere of acceptance and a “never say no” attitude.

The public will have a chance to view the new Memory Care Community at an Open House held on January 26th from 3:30 to 6:30 pm. The Open House will include tours of the new area, refreshments and live music. Please call 206-937-2800 to RSVP.

The Kenney is West Seattle’s only continuing care retirement community. In 1909 The Kenney opened its doors for senior housing and now offers independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing and memory care on campus. Visit www.thekenney.org or call 206-937-2800 for more information.