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**RI NURSING HOME RECEIVES TOP NATIONAL HONORS  
IN RANKING BY US NEWS & WORLD REPORT**

WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND, March 12, 2009: *U.S. News and World Report* has unveiled a national ranking of America's 15,500 nursing homes yesterday and Ballou Home for the Aged in Woonsocket was one of 27 nationwide that merited honor roll status for earning a perfect rating.

The data, compiled by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), scored nursing homes that accept Medicare or Medicaid residents on numerous measures -- from safe food preparation to the nursing/resident care ratio. Rating standards included overall satisfaction, health inspections, nurse staffing, and quality measures of individual care.

"We're pleased to have received this honor from US News & World Report," said Administrator Carl Newell. "Our staff is dedicated to the residents and it's nice to see that, collectively, we've received this national recognition of our efforts."

To view the complete story visit: <http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/best-nursing-homes/2009/03/11/best-nursing-homes-honor-roll.html>.

Ballou Home for the Aged is a non-profit organization and a member of the Rhode Island Association of Facilities and Services for the Aging (RIAFSA), which represents non-profit aging providers across the long term care spectrum. The 43-bed residence was founded in Woonsocket in 1900 and provides skilled, restorative, and long-term care service by a friendly team of professionals in an intimate setting.

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