



**THE GREEN HOUSE PROJECT**  
caring homes for meaningful lives<sup>SM</sup>

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **THE GREEN HOUSE® Project Partners With “It’s Never 2 Late” and Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging In Pilot Study of Quality of Life In Green House Homes**

Through a special grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, THE GREEN HOUSE® Project has been looking at the impact of the “It’s Never 2 Late” (IN2L) technology on some of the core elder outcomes related to quality of life in the Green House homes. Four Green House project sites have been participating in the study which began in the Fall of 2008 and will continue through 2009.

So far, based on the first three months of data, Dr. Linda Hollinger Smith, Principal Investigator from the Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging, reports the following observations:

At 3-months post-IN2L implementation, in relation to the comparison homes, elders in IN2L homes:

- Have significantly greater energy levels;
- Participated more in social engagement activities;
- Were less depressed;
- Demonstrated greater self-efficacy; and
- Experienced greater quality of life.

It was also reported that nearly 43% of Green House elders participated in IN2L activities related to learning for once a week or more. This was followed by mind exercises, communication, entertainment, and hobbies.

Green House staff were also asked about the impact of IN2L participation on interactions and relationships among residents, staff, and families and the time elders are spending in various other activities including therapy, socialization, and daily home activities. Nearly 70% agree that staff have gotten to know more about their elders, and over 50% agree that elders are interacting more with staff, and the relationships between elders and staff have improved.

After a third round of assessments, a final report on this study will be released by early 2010.

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