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Contact: 785-296-0901
Communications@dol.ks.gov

Manhattan Facility Recognized for Safety Achievements

TOPEKA — Governor Kathleen Sebelius issued a proclamation recognizing and congratulating Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community of Manhattan for its commitment to workplace health and safety on June 6 at the State Capitol in Topeka. The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) also recognized Meadowlark Hills as part of the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) for its exemplary safety and health record at a ceremony on March 23. Meadowlark Hills recorded only four lost work days in 2004 due to workplace illness or injury, compared to 77 days in 2002.

"It is important to recognize employers who are dedicated to worker safety and health, and Meadowlark Hills is deserving of this award," said KDOL Secretary Jim Garner. "It always is gratifying to see such high importance placed on the safety and health of employees. We are pleased to be a part of bringing this award to Meadowlark Hills and Kansas."

To qualify for SHARP, a business must have an excellent safety and health record. Companies typically work with KDOL safety and health consultants for many months to implement a comprehensive workplace safety program to achieve this recognition. The company is nominated by KDOL's safety staff and receives a one-year exemption from OSHA programmed inspections. There are more than seven million companies nationwide, but fewer than 800 sites have achieved this status. Meadowlark Hills is the 28th company to be so recognized in Kansas.

"I congratulate the employees of the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community for your efforts to implement and maintain an excellent safety and health program" said Charles Adkins, Regional Administrator at OSHA.



photo: Joining Governor Sebelius at a proclamation signing honoring safety efforts at Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community of Manhattan are, from left to right-Terri Sanchez, KDOL; Jerrie Rieck, Darcy Olson, Roger Beins, Deanna Beins, Jennifer Collins, David Deubler and Willie Novotny, Meadowlark Hills; and Jim Garner, Secretary KDOL.

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