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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mather LifeWays and American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging
To Co-host Research “Brain Trust” Meeting**

Evanston, Ill. (February 18, 2009) – Mather LifeWays, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating “Ways to Age Well,” and the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA), announced today that the two organizations will host a national “Brain Trust” meeting of aging services leaders to explore best practices and research. The meeting will bring together administrators, researchers and funders from more than 30 senior living organizations, foundations, and associations at Splendido, Mather LifeWays senior living community, in Tucson, Arizona, on February 26-27, 2009.

“The meeting will be a unique opportunity to learn and share the best of what we know and are learning about older adults services through research endeavors,” said Mary Leary, President and CEO, Mather LifeWays. “It will be a wonderful opportunity to bring together many of the nation’s brightest and most progressive organizations who are making a difference in the lives of older adults.”

The meeting was developed by AAHSA in collaboration with Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging. Established by Mather LifeWays in 1999, the Institute on Aging conducts applied research and education for professionals who serve them. With its mission to create the future of aging services, AAHSA is committed to help its 5,700 member organizations be progressive so that they may provide the best services and care possible to older adults.

The meeting will target research areas that are central to many of AAHSA members including wellness of older adults, workforce issues, residents’ quality of life, and community-based programming.

Several of the outcomes that are envisioned from the meeting include:

- create a national concerted applied research agenda;
- better orchestrate research findings involving member organizations;
- develop a national member applied research culture that might facilitate applied research in the senior living field;
- collaborate in research projects and grants;
- support member organizations in developing quality research projects, obtaining grants, and shared learning; and,
- provide policy makers reliable information on programs and initiatives that actually work to improve quality services for older adults and have economic benefits to the public.

Representatives of the following organizations will participate in the February 26-27, 2009 meeting at Splendido in Tucson:

Abramson Center for Jewish Life – Polisher Research Institute
North Wales, PA

ACTS Retirement Communities
Boca Raton, FL

Benjamin Rose Institute
Cleveland, OH

Bethany Center Senior Housing, Inc.
San Francisco, CA

Cathedral Square Corporation
South Burlington VT

Center for Successful Aging and Fall Prevention Center of Excellence
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA

CJE SeniorLife, Leonard Schanfield Research Institute
Chicago, IL

CJE SeniorLife
Chicago, IL

ECRI Institute
Plymouth Meeting, PA

The Erickson Foundation
Catonsville, MD 21228

Foundation for Long Term Care - NYAHS
Albany, NY

Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale
Riverdale, NY

International Council on Active Aging
Vancouver, BC

Lakeview Village
Lenexa, KS

Life Services Network of Illinois
Hinsdale, IL

Lutheran Homes of South Carolina
Irmo, SC

Lutheran Services in America
Baltimore, MD

MetLife Mature Market Institute
Westport, CT

MorseLife
Loring Institute for Research and Education
West Palm Beach, FL

Motion Picture & Television Fund

Woodland Hills, CA

The McGregor Foundation

Cleveland, OH

The SCAN Foundation

Long Beach, CA

New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

Albany, NY

About AAHSA

The members of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) help millions of individuals and their families every day through mission-driven, not-for-profit organizations dedicated to providing the services that people need, when they need them, in the place they call home. The 5,700 member organizations, many of which have served their communities for generations, offer the continuum of aging services: adult day services, home health, community services, senior housing, assisted living residences, continuing care retirement communities and nursing homes. AAHSA's commitment is to create the future of aging services through quality people can trust (www.aahsa.org).

About Mather LifeWays

Based in Evanston, Illinois, Mather LifeWays enhances the lives of older adults by creating Ways to Age Well.SM Founded in 1941 by entrepreneur and humanitarian Alonzo Mather, Mather LifeWays is a unique not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing a continuum of living and care; making neighborhoods better places for older adults to live, work, learn, contribute, and play; and identifying, implementing, and sharing best practices for wellness, workforce issues, memory care support, and empowering caregivers. To learn more about our senior residences, community initiatives and Institute on Aging, please call (847) 492.7500 or find your way to www.matherlifeways.com.

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