



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Mary Leary of Mather LifeWays Named Among McKnight's 2019 Women of Distinction Award Winners**

***Evanston, IL (May 21, 2019)*** – Mary Leary, CEO and President of Mather LifeWays, has been recognized as a top leader in the field of senior living. Leary was named to the Hall of Honor in the nationwide 2019 *McKnight's* Women of Distinction awards and was selected from hundreds of nominations by an independent panel of judges comprising industry professionals and editors of the trade publications *McKnight's Long-Term Care News* and *McKnight's Senior Living*.

In June, Leary will celebrate her 17th anniversary with Mather LifeWays, an award-winning, nearly 80-year-old, not-for-profit organization headquartered in Evanston, Illinois. Under her leadership, Mather LifeWays has grown into a highly regarded international leader with a reputation for successful business models, innovation, and wellness, that has garnered more than 250 awards and honors. During her tenure, the number of older adults served has grown from 8,400 to more than 61,000.

“Mary Leary has been a remarkable leader and innovator in our field,” said David Schless, President, American Seniors Housing Association. “Mary espouses the best attributes of a great leader and continues to have a significant and positive impact on everyone she interacts with. Her recognition as a recipient of the McKnight’s 2019 Women of Distinction is very well-deserved.”

This is *McKnight's* first year for the program, and overall, 19 Hall of Honor recipients were named. Collectively, *McKnight's* Women of Distinction have helped their organizations achieve major performance milestones. Winners include direct care providers, as well as association and academic professionals; and have served as mentors or inspiration to their colleagues.

“Mary is a veteran leader in our industry who is always driving innovation - a mark of a great leader,” said Bob Kramer, Founder and Strategic Advisor, National Investment Center for the Seniors Housing & Care Industry. “Using lessons learned from Mather LifeWays’ unique three-legged platform of aging research, neighborhood and community services, and senior living residences, Mary brings a focus on delivering what older adults want and value that will enrich their lives.”

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Leary and other award winners were honored May 16 in Chicago.

**About Mather LifeWays**

Based in Evanston, Illinois, Mather LifeWays is a nearly 80-year-old unique, nondenominational not-for-profit organization that enhances the lives of older adults by creating Ways to Age Well<sup>SM</sup>. This includes award-winning senior living residences, unique neighborhood programs, and the nationally recognized Institute on Aging. To learn more about Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging, or Mather LifeWays senior residences and community initiatives, please call (847) 492.7500 or find your way to [matherlifeways.com](http://matherlifeways.com).

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