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THE FOREST AT DUKE

KEEP GROWINGSM

The Forest at Duke earns 2022 Platinum Level SAGECare Certification

[DURHAM, NC, March 25, 2022] The Forest at Duke is committed to making diversity and inclusion part of its everyday culture and collective experience. Together, the community strives to provide an inclusive environment that encourages, supports, and celebrates the diverse voices of all of its residents and team members.

To elevate The Forest at Duke's commitment to diversity and inclusion, the organization partnered with Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders, commonly known as SAGE, to review The Forest's processes and communications and to provide LGBTQ competency training to all of its leaders and team members. As a result of these actions, The Forest at Duke is proud to announce that it has earned SAGECare Certification at the Platinum level for 2022. This considerable achievement is a powerful statement of The Forest's commitment to affirm LGBTQ residents, team members, and visitors to its campus.

Tess Thomas, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, who spearheaded The Forest at Duke's efforts to achieve SAGECare Certification, serves as the organization's Director of Human Resources. "All of our team members' active participation and completion of the training affirms our commitment to a welcoming and respectful community for those who are served and those who serve," Mrs. Thomas states.

Anita L. Holt, President and CEO of The Forest at Duke, adds, "We recognize that this certification is but one step in an ongoing journey to fully imbed the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organizational DNA."

SAGECare is a division of SAGE, the country's oldest and largest non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBT older adults. SAGECare provides LGBT competency training and consulting on LGBT aging issues to service providers.

Since its opening in 1992, The Forest at Duke has been recognized as Durham's premier retirement community of choice. From an award-winning Health and Wellness center, to the addition of 15 new individual homes and a beautifully renovated 40,000 sq. ft. Community Center, The Forest at Duke continues to build on the legacy of offering exceptional service and care.

Together, The Forest at Duke and SAGECare will continue their partnership to serve people with the best care possible and make each older person feel comfortable for who they are.

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