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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Maristhill Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Awarded Five-Star Rating

THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL AWARDED BY NURSING HOME COMPARE AGENCY

WALTHAM, MA – (February 17, 2009) **Maristhill Nursing & Rehabilitation Center**, a non-profit provider of rehabilitative services, short-term and long-term care located in Waltham Massachusetts, was recently given an impressive **five-star rating by Nursing Home Compare**, a federal agency rating system created to help consumers compare nursing homes.

The *Five-Star Quality Rating* is based on continued efforts as a result of the *Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1987 (OBRA '87)*, a nursing home reform law, and more recent quality improvement campaigns such as the *Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes*, a coalition of consumers, health care providers, and nursing home professionals. Nursing home ratings are taken from data compiled during health inspections, staffing reviews and various quality measures. The more stars awarded, the better the rating. For example, a five-star rating means "much above average," while a four-star rating indicates "above average," and so on.

"We are very pleased to have been given the highest rating," said **Carolyn Fenn**, Maristhill's Administrator. The staff works very hard to consistently achieve high-levels of quality in both clinical care and administrative areas, and we regularly poll residents and families to ensure our standards are maintained. Of course we encourage families to look at a variety of factors when selecting a nursing home. The five-star rating is an important element, but it's important for people to tour each facility and look at the whole picture as well."

Originally founded in 1969 by the Marist Missionary Sisters, Maristhill is a licensed skilled-nursing and rehabilitation center with a highly-recognized performance record for clinical excellence and quality care. People of all faiths and denominations are welcomed at the 123-bed facility, which is a member of **Covenant Health Systems**, a Catholic health care system sponsoring hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living residences and other health and elder services throughout New England.

For additional information about the five-star rating system and Nursing Home Compare, please visit [www.medicare.gov/nhcompare](http://www.medicare.gov/nhcompare). Additional information about Maristhill can be found on-line at [www.maristhill.org](http://www.maristhill.org) or by contacting **Ms. Carolyn Fenn** at (781) 893-0240.

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