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**Kara Owen of The Barrington of Carmel Receives National Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator Award**

CARMEL, IN — BHI Senior Living is proud to announce that Kara Owen, MBA, HFA, CDP, FACHCA, Executive Director and Licensed Administrator of The Barrington of Carmel, has been awarded the Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator Award by the American College of Health Care Administrators at its April 2026 national conference.

This prestigious national honor recognizes administrators who demonstrate exceptional leadership, operational excellence, and a deep commitment to advancing the quality of care in assisted living communities across the country.

Kara Owen has consistently exemplified these qualities through her leadership at The Barrington of Carmel, where she oversees resident experience, regulatory compliance, workforce performance, and financial outcomes across a dynamic and growing campus. Known for her disciplined, systems-driven approach, Kara has cultivated a culture grounded in accountability, service, and continuous improvement.

Under her leadership, The Barrington has achieved back-to-back deficiency-free Department of Health inspections, reflecting a strong and proactive quality culture. The community also maintains near-full occupancy, driven by a seamless alignment between resident experience, interdisciplinary collaboration, and operational execution.

Kara's leadership extends well beyond operational outcomes. She is widely recognized for fostering high levels of resident satisfaction and employee engagement, creating an environment where both residents and team members thrive. Her commitment to excellence is evident in the consistency of daily operations and her focus on core fundamentals such as safety, service, infection prevention, and person-centered care.

In addition to her role at The Barrington, Kara is currently leading a significant campus expansion, including new dining venues and enhanced residential offerings. This initiative requires sophisticated leadership in change management, construction coordination, and maintaining a seamless resident experience throughout the process.

A dedicated mentor and leader, Kara has also played a key role in developing future leaders within BHI Senior Living. Many of her direct reports have advanced into broader leadership roles, reflecting her commitment to coaching, professional development, and building a strong leadership pipeline.

Kara's impact extends into the broader profession as well. She serves as Treasurer for the ACHCA Indiana Chapter and is an active contributor to advancing the organization's mission. Having recently achieved Fellow status within ACHCA, she continues to demonstrate her commitment to professional excellence and lifelong learning, including earning her MBA in Healthcare Administration.

"Kara represents the very best of what this profession stands for," said John Dattilo, President and CEO of BHI Senior Living. "Her ability to deliver strong outcomes while staying deeply committed to residents, team members, and the future of senior living is truly exceptional. We are incredibly proud to see her recognized at the national level."

The Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator Award recognizes individuals who pair operational excellence with ethical leadership and a commitment to advancing the field. Kara Owen's selection as this year's recipient reflects her unwavering dedication to these principles and her lasting impact on the communities she serves.

BHI Senior Living is a mission-driven, not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older adults through innovative services, compassionate care, and vibrant communities across the Midwest.