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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The Laurels of Bedford Breaks Ground on \$2.5 Million Construction Project**

*New therapy gym and private guest rooms will add over 13,000 square feet to the facility*

**BATTLE CREEK, Mich.** – The Laurels of Bedford, a skilled nursing and rehabilitation center operated by Laurel Health Care Company, broke ground on a \$2.5 million construction project Oct. 18 at a ceremony attended by local businesses and dignitaries, including State Representative Jim Haadsma.

Over 13,000 square feet will be added to the existing building in total, with a state-of-the-art physical therapy gym featured at the front entrance and a new wing added to the rear of the facility that will include 17 private guest suites and additional work space and storage areas.

“We are delighted to begin construction on this first-class addition to The Laurels of Bedford as we further invest in delivering quality senior care and rehabilitation services to Battle Creek and the surrounding area,” Jeff Shepard, regional director of operations for Laurel Health Care Company, said. “LHCC has been a provider in the business of caring for others in this community for nearly 25 years, and these important facility improvements will help us better serve the needs of our guests and their families for the next 25 years and beyond.”

Featuring the latest equipment and an in-house team of rehabilitation and therapy specialists, the 2,500-square foot therapy gym addition at the front of the facility will improve ease of access for visitors from outside of the facility seeking outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy while remaining centrally located for residents partaking in short- and long-term rehabilitation programs. Additionally, the 11,000-square foot private guest suite corridor will feature rooms with private bathrooms and showers, along with a new nursing station, staff lounge and administrative offices.

State Rep. Haadsma, a representative of Michigan’s 62nd District, praised Laurel Health Care Company for its commitment to the Battle Creek community and for its dedication in providing comprehensive health care services for local seniors.

“I am thrilled to have a respected provider like Laurel Health Care Company make such a wonderful commitment to the senior population in our district,” State Rep. Haadsma said. “The Laurels of Bedford has been a tremendous civic asset for many years and these exciting additions and improvements to the existing facility will allow their team to improve upon the quality care and service they already offer for their residents and the rest of our community.”

The new additions to The Laurels of Bedford are slated for opening in the summer of 2020. Visit [www.laurelsofbedford.com](http://www.laurelsofbedford.com) for more information and for project updates.

### **ABOUT THE LAURELS OF BEDFORD**

Conveniently located in Battle Creek on Bedford Road/state route M37, The Laurels of Bedford is a 123-bed skilled nursing center dedicated to both care and caring. The team of professionals at The Laurels is committed to creating an environment that makes both short-term and long-term guests feel at home.

### **ABOUT LAUREL HEALTH CARE COMPANY**

Laurel Health Care Company is a national provider of skilled nursing, rehabilitation, sub-acute and assisted living services based in Westerville, Ohio. With more than 40 locations in five states – Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, North Carolina and Virginia – LHCC is dedicated to achieving the highest standards of care and caring for its guests and their families.

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***L to R:*** Keli Carter, marketing director; Don Macleay, administrator; Jeff Shepard, regional director of operations; Annette Teunessen, director of nursing; Rachel Pallett, rehab director; Susie Moore, regional clinical coordinator; Jennifer Pifer, regional director of business development. ***Photo by Bree Tappenden.***