



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
Jan. 20, 2009

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EDGEMOOR PROVIDES HAVEN TO REGION'S FRAILEST *New State-of-the-Art Facility Unveiled*

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency's (HHSA) new Edgemoor Skilled Nursing Facility was unveiled to the public today in an event showcasing the new state-of-the-art complex that will provide residents with the highest quality of care.

The new facility is built on 15 acres of the County's 326-acre property located just north of the Magnolia Street barn in Santee. It replaces the original Edgemoor, which operated on the same property. Some of those structures were built in the 1920s.

"The new Edgemoor speaks volumes to our County's commitment to our friends and neighbors that face adversity and challenges in everyday life," said Dianne Jacob, Chairwoman of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. "This new facility allows us to compassionately deliver the most modern treatment and rehabilitation services available while still saving valuable taxpayer resources in these tough economic times."

The County determined it would be more cost-effective to completely rebuild Edgemoor than to update the older original facility. Gone are the undersized rooms, lengthy hallways, outdated heating and lighting systems and disconnected buildings – replaced by a 167,000 square foot facility that features climate-control and energy-efficient technology, a wireless computer environment, modern medical technology and patient-friendly furnishings and interior design.

The annual operational savings for the new building is \$4.1 million. Edgemoor's energy-saving building will save the County an average of more than 1.2 million kWh of electricity annually. At an average rate of 16 cents/kWh that's a savings of approximately \$207,000 on the facility's utility bills every year. The construction of the new facility cost an estimated \$123.5 million. Nearly half of the total was covered by the federal government as a result of Senate Bill 1128.

"Edgemoor is home to both long-term patients and those able to rehabilitate and return to other living arrangements," said Nick Macchione, Director, HHSA. "We care for people who have experienced life-altering events such as car crashes, brain injury or strokes. Our dedicated staff provides them with the best care possible."

The new facility will open to patients when the state completes its licensing process. It will accommodate 192 patients. Edgemoor currently houses 175 patients. The average age of Edgemoor patients is 51.

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