

Willow Brook Christian Home COLUMBUS, OHIO
 Brown Calabretta Architects, Inc. COLUMBUS, OHIO



Harry Croghan

The original Willow Brook Christian Home was a 50-bed, semiprivate skilled nursing facility of the medical prototype of the 1980s. The expansion and renovation were designed to create a more comfortable and homelike environment, while changing all 50 skilled nursing beds to private rooms and expanding beyond skilled nursing care to include a 34-bed assisted living facility to meet the growing demand of the community.

Attractive and functional ancillary spaces are integral to

the intended environment. The Grapevine Grill prepares fresh food daily that is served restaurant style to residents, staff, and visitors alike. Several activity and visiting lounges are interspersed throughout to allow for comfortable socialization in attractive settings. Various exterior spaces are also readily available for social activities or quiet contemplation.

Life in the assisted living center is all about individual choices, changing needs, and preferences. Residents can have planned meals brought to their suites, prepare their own meals, or stroll the short distance down to The Grapevine Grille for a life-enriching meal in the company of friends.

Direct access by elevator from assisted living to the nursing home below allows residents to visit friends, spouses, or relatives and gives them access to a higher level of healthcare should the need ever arise. Each resident suite is private and has its own bathroom. Roll-in showers allow residents to manage personal hygiene for themselves as long as possible or with limited assistance. For those who need or desire a little more service, down the hall is a full-service central bath with a large roll-in shower and hydrotherapy tub.

Willow Brook is a care-based, mission-driven organization that



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puts people first. Not only are the residents important, but family members, friends, visitors, staff, and the public are, as well. A holistic environment that provides for basic physical needs, as well as spiritual ones, with reinforcement from staff, family, and friends is at the core of this Christian community's values. The goal was to make this new facility more than a nice place to live. It had to be a fun place to visit, a great

place to work, and a terrific place to share a meal. Privacy, dignity, community, and love are reinforced throughout the physical space. The environment feels homelike while still being efficient for care services.

Jury comment: Scalloped retaining walls and terraces are a creative solution to a ten-foot grade differential.



PROJECT CATEGORY: New Construction/Remodel-Renovation

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR: Larry Harris, Executive Director

FIRM: Brown Calabretta Architects, Inc., (614) 298-2132

DESIGN TEAM: Richard B. Brown, Design Principal; Tony Frilling, Project Architect; David C. Prater, Project Manager (Brown Calabretta Architects, Inc.); Debbie Folpe, Interior Designer (Andrews Architects); Jim Hill, MEP Engineer (Hill Engineering); Karl Walters, Structural Engineer (Jack D. Walters & Associates, Inc.)

PHOTOGRAPHY: Brown Calabretta Architects, Inc.; Harry Croghan

RESIDENT/CLIENT CAPACITY: 26 single/couple assisted living suites (34 beds); 50 skilled nursing suites (50 beds)

TOTAL AREA (SQ. FT.): 56,427

TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST (EXCLUDING LAND): \$5,607,898

CONSTRUCTION COST/SQ. FT.: \$99

COMPLETION: October 2005