

*Advanced Wireless Communications - Solving Problems that other companies haven't been able to do.*

The Northfield Retirement Community provides 32 single rooms and 10 double rooms in their care facility, along with 66 assisted living apartments and 118 senior housing apartments managed by Kyle Nordine (CEO) and Tom Nielsen (Director of Operations).

Like many facilities, the Northfield Retirement Community faces the challenges of efficient communication, resident security and the

response time to residents' needs. They wanted to implement an overall wireless communication system that could address these issues as well as provide reports, a reliable coverage and flexibility for future growth.

Advanced Wireless Communications (AWC) of Lakeville, MN had the solution. Through the use of low cost two-way radios for the staff communication, and the installation of the AWC

Instant Assistant®.

To tackle the communication problems, AWC was able to interface the existing Nurse Call system with the new wireless system. Now when a resident activated their existing call light switch, a staff member responsible for that area would receive a message on their radio - "Resident Assistance Cardinal Unit room 112 First Request". If the switch was not cancelled within a predetermined amount of time, in this case 5 minutes, the message would again play and announce a 2nd request, and in 3 minutes a 3rd request. Two minutes after the 3rd request, if the call is still not cancelled a 4th request will be announced not only to the staff in that area, but also to the nursing administration radio channel. All of this information will show up on a report generated by the Instant Assistant.

Resident security was addressed with the installation of wireless door monitoring sensors on all exterior doors. The monitoring and alarming of the doors is based on time of day, some are active only at certain hours and others are always alarmed. This allows independent residents to come and go as they wish during normal hours, however during "after hours" if a door is opened an alarm and message - "Door alarm Parkview West door number 38" will

## AWC PROVIDES EFFICIENT COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & FLEXIBILITY



*The entire site is well over a 1/2 mile long with the building itself being well over a 1/4 mile long.*

be announced on the two-way radios. Allowing the staff to quickly check the door and area for either a resident or an unauthorized person entering or exiting the facility. “We now feel that we have a better handle on response time to our residents and a better sense of security. This system is also less expensive than purchasing bracelets for residents.” said Kyle Nordine.

So, why AWC? Advanced Wireless Communications provided the solutions the Northfield Retirement Community needed. “They proved to me that they could get the job done. They came in and listened to our needs and concerns, then they built a system from the ground up to provide a solution for us.” Kyle also mentioned the service since first starting the partnership with AWC has been great.

The Northfield Retirement Community will be giving their residents the option of having wireless pendants to carry with them. Allowing them to always be able to notify staff for help. NRC is also wanting AWC to interface with one of their fire alarm systems, allowing an announcement to go over the two-way radios that an alarm

has been activated and what zone it is in.

If your retirement community / campus would like more information on how a system could work in your facility please contact Advanced Wireless Communications today.

*For more information about Advanced Wireless Communications and any products or services mentioned in this article, please call 800-475-5852 or visit their website at [www.advancedwireless.com](http://www.advancedwireless.com)*

