

## ***News Release***

### **DUBUQUE NATIVE CHRISTINA ATKINSON RECEIVES FRONTLINE HONORS RECOGNITION FROM SENIOR HOUSING NEWS**

*Physical Therapist Atkinson honored in the Senior Housing and Senior Living category*

**Saint Louis Park, Minn. (February 26, 2024)** – Christina Atkinson, PT, DPT, a native of Dubuque, Iowa, has been named to the Frontline Honors Class of 2024. With nominations in the categories of Behavioral Health, Home Health and Home Care, Hospice and Palliative Care, Senior Housing and Senior Living, and Skilled Nursing, the program showcases exemplary character and performance of frontline workers across the care continuum.

Atkinson, a physical therapist with Ascend Rehabilitation, a division of Saint Therese, was among 12 professionals receiving the honor from across the country, in the Senior Housing and Senior Living category. She has worked for Ascend Rehab since 2018 and currently works out of Saint Therese of Woodbury, a senior living community in Woodbury, Minn. She specializes in taking care of seniors with Parkinson's Disease and recently wrote a blog about this care, entitled "[Programs to Help People with Parkinson's Disease.](#)"

In nominating Atkinson for the honor, Amy Taylor-Greengard, executive vice president of Rehab said, "Christina exemplifies heartfelt dedication and compassion, going beyond typical rehab care to enrich the lives of seniors. Whether organizing inclusive community outings, forming deep, lasting bonds with patients, or mentoring new clinicians, she embodies the Saint Therese values of respect, heartfelt purpose, and fun in every aspect of her work."

A family member of one of Atkinson’s clients wrote, “Christina’s ability to connect with her clients goes far beyond simply following a checklist or adhering to a set of rules. She uses critical judgment to tailor her approach to each individual, understanding that everyone’s needs, personalities, and learning styles are unique. As a retired nurse, I can attest to how rare and valuable this gift is. Christina engages with her clients in a way that is both kind and deeply respectful, making each interaction personal and meaningful.”

Senior Housing News describes Frontline Honors as: a dedicated, high-performing frontline worker who delivers exceptional experiences and outcomes; a passionate worker who knows how to put their vision into action for the good of their respective industry, the patients and residents they serve, and their families; and an advocate for their respective industry and their peers.

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**About Ascend Rehabilitation:** Minnesota-based Ascend Rehabilitation began as the rehab department at Saint Therese of New Hope. It expanded into its own division called Saint Therese Rehab in 2012 providing services to the Minnesota Saint Therese communities. It became Ascend Rehabilitation in 2017 providing services to other Minnesota senior care facilities, in addition to Saint Therese. It currently offers rehabilitation services, fitness programs, and initiatives such as fall prevention to help ensure seniors remain active, healthy, and live well.

**About Saint Therese:** Saint Therese was founded in 1964 and prides itself on its rich tradition of providing exceptional care for seniors. It has locations and services in Brooklyn Park, Woodbury, Corcoran, Shoreview (all Minnesota), IHM Senior Living Community in Monroe, Mich., and St. Mary of the Woods in Avon, Ohio. Most communities provide the full continuum of care from independent living, assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing and transitional care. Saint Therese at St. Odilia in Shoreview specializes in hospice and palliative care. Ascend Rehabilitation provides rehabilitation therapy, health and wellness services. Saint Therese is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) senior care organization.

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