

# Broken Bow continues to expand, grow - Regional - Kearney Hub

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## Broken Bow continues to expand, grow

New assisted living facility designed for those with Alzheimer's, related dementias



By ELLEN MORTENSEN Hub Regional Correspondent | Posted 7 days ago

BROKEN BOW — Broken Bow's three-year string of growth and expansion continued Thursday when officials broke ground at a new assisted living facility.



"This is an example of all the wonderful things happening in our area — this is very exciting," said Melissa Garcia, president of Custer Economic Development Corp. "I think what we're seeing is a confidence in the future growth of our area."

Thursday's groundbreaking was for Quality Senior Villages of Broken Bow, an assisted living service designed specifically for people suffering from Alzheimer's and related dementias. The assisted living space will be located on Arapahoe Lane in northern Broken Bow. It is south of the Golden Living Center.

Randy Kozeal, a certified dementia practitioner and president of Quality Senior Villages, said the focus of the new home will be to provide a quiet, secure, home-like environment where people can experience quality care until their end of lives.

Kozeal was born and raised in Burwell. He said he wanted to bring the home care techniques he has developed throughout the years back to his home area.

"Our goal is to have a small group of 14-15 residents in a home setting," Kozeal said. He said there already are six or seven residents pre-registered for the service.

Kozeal says this is a pilot project, and the first in this type of setting.

"Our goal is to provide this quality of life in rural areas. We believe in the growth, stability and economic climate of Broken Bow," Kozeal said.

All members of the workforce at Quality Senior Villages are trained in the delivery of care to people suffering from dementia. He said the home will offer secure indoor and outdoor space for the residents, private and semi-private rooms, resident-centered activities, and high-quality meals.

"The home also offers families the peace of mind that their loved one is safe and receiving the care and quality of life that they deserve," Kozeal said.

He said the benefits of this type of model are not only found in the home-like environment, but in the reduced financial burden on families. "This model can more than adequately serve the activities of daily living needs at less cost than the nursing home model," Kozeal said.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, more than 5 million Americans are living with the disease, and someone in the U.S. develops Alzheimer's every 67 seconds. With those kinds of statistics, care is bound to become more in demand, and Broken Bow plans to be ready.

"These types of institutions are just essential to the growth of the area," Garcia said. "We are very excited to welcome this today."

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