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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

DOVE HEALTHCARE TO RECEIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD

Eau Claire, WI (February 4, 2011) – [Dove Healthcare](#) and Affiliates will be recognized at the Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation's Annual Luncheon on Monday, February 7th, 2011 for winning the 2011 Paragon Economic Impact Award. The 2011 award is sponsored by Royal Credit Union (RCU).

The Paragon Award is given annually to a local business that demonstrates excellence and positive economic impact in the Eau Claire area. Evaluation criteria include impact through job creation and opportunities; facility or equipment investment; commitment to the continued education and training of their workforce; support or involvement in economic development activities within the community; and innovations in the development of new technologies and products.

During challenging economic times, it is refreshing that Dove Healthcare continues to make strides and demonstrate growth within the increasingly dynamic healthcare industry. The company is recognized as the "resident experts" in patient care and has attracted quality individuals to staff its facilities as a result of this distinction. As demand grows within the aging population for short and long-term nursing and rehabilitation services, Dove Healthcare has worked towards improving overall access to care options; earning the company state-wide recognition for its efforts over the past decade.

The company's recent expansion projects have included the addition of 13 private rooms in 2008 to the Orchard Hills Assisted Living facility, followed by an energy upgrade to the Wisconsin Health and Regional Vent Center in 2008 and 15 additional private rooms in its memory care unit at Rutledge Home Assisted Living and Memory Care facility in late 2010. The largest development of late has been the opening of Dove Healthcare-South, a 50-bed Medicare certified skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility providing both short- and long-term care, in late 2009. The new facility and the other recent expansions have created 140 new jobs in the area.

"Dove Healthcare is a wonderful asset to the community," states Brian Doudna, Executive Director of the Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation. "The company provides valuable, innovative services to its patients and residents, a growing number of high-quality job opportunities, and supports programs and organizations that improve the overall quality of life within surrounding communities."

Jim Deignan, CEO for Dove Healthcare and Affiliates, remarks "On behalf of our organization's owner, Tommy Davidson, and our facilities leadership teams, I am honored to accept this year's Paragon Award from the Eau Claire Area EDC. Nearly 15 years ago, Tommy Davidson and I began planning for Dove Healthcare's beginnings. Our goals today remain focused on what they did then...to do what we do best, and do it as much as we can. Through unselfish ownership

principles, we have grown, and while growing we have continued to earn the community's trust, never forgetting where we came from."

ABOUT DOVE HEALTHCARE:

Dove Healthcare provides compassionate care and rehabilitation services to meet the needs of those who are dependent on assistance for daily living purposes. March 1, 1997 marked the opening of Dove Healthcare's services to Eau Claire. The company now operates five facilities, including three skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities and two assisted living facilities. Four of these locations are administered by University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire alumni. In addition, Dove Healthcare operates one physical therapy company that brought the first underwater treadmill to Wisconsin, which uniquely combines warm water with general exercise to assist in pre- and post-surgical rehabilitation treatment. In total, the facilities are licensed for 430 beds and employ almost 700 staff members. Dove Healthcare is owned by Tommy Davidson of Chattanooga, TN and locally managed by CEO Jim Deignan, licensed nursing home administrator and CPA.

The Eau Claire Area EDC, a nonprofit organization, is a public/private sector partnership that facilitates the growth of quality job opportunities by working with entrepreneurs, businesses, and communities seeking to create, retain, and expand quality jobs in the Eau Claire area.

The Paragon Economic Impact Award is an annual program of the EDC. To [*nominate a business*](#) for the 2012 Paragon Award, please go to www.eauclaire-wi.com to fill out the nomination form.

For more information about the award, contact the EDC at 715-834-0070 or go online: www.eauclaire-wi.com.

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