

# KENDALL GAZETTE

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## Three Miami-Dade Palace Communities Receive Highest Accreditation Scores

BY JANIS EHLERS

The Palace Group has been awarded prestigious accreditation by The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for The Palace Renaissance and Royale in Kendall and The Palace Gardens in Homestead.

Each Palace community received a perfect score of 100 percent, a feat accomplished by only 3 percent of senior living communities in the country.

“Receiving this accreditation means we have the ‘gold seal’ rating of the senior living industry,” explained Juanita Baiamonte, corporate director of training and education. “Previously, our Palace communities received accreditation in 2011 and this process was to reaccredit them enabling them to keep the designation.”

The Palace communities were noted for their outstanding person-centered care and services.

“This has always been the philosophy of Helen and Jacob Shaham, founders of The Palace Group and it’s tremendously validating to be recognized for these high standards of care,” explained Baiamonte. “It’s not a one-time review. There are yearly improvement reports that are required to make sure a community is continually improving and excelling; implementing new and innovative tools to make our communities better for every resident.”

The importance in receiving a CARF accreditation is similar to the five-star, diamond rating of the hotel industry. It means that a third-party accreditor has reviewed all aspects of the community and is unbiased in judging the community in key areas such as leadership, strategic planning, input from resident and families, risk management, health and safety and human resources.

CARF is the highest standard of accreditation given to assisted living and healthcare communities and offers a viable pathway to distinguishing quality in professionally managed communities.



Palace executives Ricardo Martinez, Juanita Baiamonte and Zach Shaham with one of the CARF certificates.

“Moving to a senior living community that is accredited affords greater peace of mind that care and services have undergone intense evaluation,” Baiamonte said. “This should be the question the consumer asks when they are considering a senior living community: ‘is it CARF accredited?’. For savvy consumers, being CARF-accredited allows apples to apples comparison. People need to realize that just as they seek an accredited college and hospital, they want to know that a senior living community has also met higher standards.”

Founded in 1966, CARF is an independent, non-profit accrediting body dedicated to the promotion of quality, value and optimal services

through consultative accreditation processes. Rigorous peer review by a professional CARF auditing team precedes strength and deficiency findings.

Located at 11355 S.W. 84th Street in Miami, The Palace Renaissance and The Palace Royale are part of a continuum of care offered at The Palace Kendall campus. The Palace Gardens, 1351 N Krome Ave., in Homestead, offers assisted living in a casual, tropical landscaped setting.

**For information about The Palace communities, please call 305-271-2220 or visit [www.ThePalace.org](http://www.ThePalace.org).**