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Judy Berry
Lakeview Ranch
69531 213th Street
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Dear Judy,

While traveling throughout the US to give a lecture on a book tour, it is rare for me to visit an Alzheimer's facility that is truly state-of-the-art with both programming and caring. Lakeview Ranch is such a place.

The level of loving interaction from all your staff captivated me. The quality and compassion of your Nursing Staff is outstanding. As you know, Alzheimer's disease will not take away the patient's dignity -it is instead the lack of appropriate knowledge about supporting the patient in his/her world that leads to issues of dignity. Each resident of the Lakeview Ranch appeared to me with dignity totally intact. Accolades to your staff for assisting these folks while recognizing the unique qualities of each one and developing individual plans of care that allow each resident to function at their own level.

Your gift of foster care offers the closest thing to being with family 24/7. The warmth of the environment and those who work in it is immediately obvious from the artwork to the family-style dining. At Lakeview Ranches, the approach to failing cognition transcends illness and applauds humanness. This is noted in the wonderful animal program, the consistent interactions with local teens, the daily enrichment offerings, and the activity programs that give each resident chance to feel successful and part of a social community.

I am solidly in favor of having your programs around for many years to come and hope you will add my voice to others who know that you need funding and need it now to keep these homes available for this very special population. It would be a great travesty to lose any of the programs that you have so lovingly and knowledgably created.

Kindest regards,

Joanne Koenig Coste
Author: *Learning To Speak Alzheimer's*