



Guardian Angels Elim Home Care and Hospice HomeCare Elite Award Winner

OCS HomeCare has identified Guardian Angels Elim Home Care as one of the Top 500 home care agencies in the country. As a 2009 HomeCare Elite winner, Guardian Angels Elim has demonstrated that it provides “the best possible care while performing at the highest level,” according to Nancy Buller, Senior Director of Marketing and Communications at OCS HomeCare.

Guardian Angels Elim Home Care and Hospice provide home care and hospice services to clients in four Minnesota counties in the northwestern Twin Cities metropolitan area. As part of a comprehensive senior care organization, the home care and hospice service lines are part of the continuum of care developed to serve seniors living in a variety of settings. Their service line includes skilled nursing, home health aide, homemaking, therapies, telehealth, respite and companion care in addition to comprehensive hospice care. Guardian Angels Elim Home Care CEO Gary Hjelmstad attributes their success in home care to a staff with integrity, a commitment to quality and use of proven home care pathways, all enabled by point of care and telehealth technology.

As a technology pioneer, Guardian Angels Elim began using CareFacts for point of care clinical documentation in 1997. They envisioned the future of electronic health records and wanted to be ahead of the game. They chose CareFacts as a vendor because other Minnesota home care agencies had successfully implemented their system and recommended it. Because they have been using electronic documentation and billing for so long, they cannot imagine running their agency without it.

Guardian Angels Elim uses CareFacts to monitor and improve the quality of the care delivered. They use the OASIS tools and reporting functionality to have a rich understanding of their operations and inform their quality improvement processes. Compliance reviews and audits are streamlined and business decision-making is better informed. The efficiencies gained have improved their bottom line and contributed to their growth in the years since first implementing CareFacts. After successfully implementing robust telehealth functionality with 24/7 patient management and proactive care, they are anticipating the future by looking to start a disease management program as well.

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The HomeCare Elite Award is given annually to the top 25 percent of Medicare-certified home health care agencies based on publicly-available data including quality outcomes, quality improvement, and financial performance. The Award is given by OCS, Inc., a company dedicated to promoting business intelligence in the health care sector. According to the OCS website, their bottom-line goal is to help your agency “turn your data into fact-based knowledge to make smarter decisions.”