



## **Aging Services Leader Ecumen to Discuss Technology's Role in United States' Age Wave at U.S. Senate Hearing**

*Aging services provider Ecumen, one of the country's largest non-profit senior housing, services and development companies, will share in a U.S. Senate briefing, how it's using technology to prepare for the United States' age wave and help shape livable communities that foster successful aging.*

Shoreview, MN, January 24, 2008 --(PR.com)-- Aging services provider Ecumen, one of the country's largest non-profit senior housing, services and development companies, will share in Washington, D.C., how it's using [technology to prepare for the United States' age wave](#) and help shape livable communities that foster successful aging.

On January 30th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Dirksen Senate Office Building Room G50 Kathy Bakkenist, Ecumen's chief operating officer and senior vice president of strategy and operations, and Honor Hacker, a resident of an Ecumen community in St. Paul, Minn., will testify before members and staff of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging and U.S. Senate Medical Technology Caucus.

Bakkenist and Hacker will be joined by Mike Magee, M.D., senior fellow in health policy, Center for Aging Services Technologies (CAST) and commissioner on the National Commission for Quality Long-Term Care; and Darrin Jones, senior business development manager for Intel's Global Digital Health Group. Bakkenist and Jones also are commissioners for the Center for Aging Services Technologies (CAST), a collaboration of leading technology companies, aging services companies, research universities and government representatives. Technology demonstrations also will be conducted for the policymakers.

“The age wave holds so much opportunity for America,” said Bakkenist. “By bringing technology into aging services, we can defragment health care, empower people, add years to life, enhance independence, share knowledge across generations, and connect family members across the country and world.”

In its work to improve quality of life and help seniors live as independently as possible Ecumen has introduced a variety of technologies in the last three years, including: QuietCare sensor technology; [m]Power cognitive fitness technology; CareTracker, which eliminates paper charting in long-term care settings; and Ivivi SofPulse, which uses pulsed electromagnetic field technology to speed tissue healing. Ecumen recently released white papers on technology in aging services (<http://www.ecumen.org/whitepaper.html>).

### **About Ecumen**

Ecumen ([www.ecumen.org](http://www.ecumen.org)) is based in Shoreview, Minn., and is one of the largest non-profit senior housing, services and development companies in the United States. The name Ecumen comes from the word ecumenical, which in turn is derived from the Greek word for home: “Oikos.” Ecumen's mission is to create home for older adults wherever they choose to live. Ecumen is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and has 4,000 team members. Ecumen writes about news and ideas



that are shaping the future of aging services and senior housing at its Changing Aging blog:  
<http://www.ecumen.org/changing-aging/>

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