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**\$2 Million Gift Creates Adler Center for Nursing
Excellence at Ramapo College**

Philanthropists Mike and Elaine Adler Fund New 25,000 Sq. Foot Structure

(MAHWAH, NJ) – The Board of Trustees at Ramapo College of New Jersey today announced a \$2 million gift to the College from Bergen County philanthropists Myron “Mike” and Elaine Adler of Franklin Lakes for establishment of the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence.

The gift will fund the new home of Ramapo College's highly-acclaimed and expanding nursing programs, as well as state-of-the-art labs to enhance the education of all our science students.

“The Adler’s most generous support will maximize the College’s ability to add nursing graduate programs, to be a resource to health care professionals in the region, and take a leadership role in nursing education,” said Board of Trustee Chairman A.J. Sabath. “They are investing in the future of our students and ensuring that their gift will pay dividends for generations to come.”

The gift will launch a \$54 million renovation to the College’s G Wing, which houses the School of Theoretical and Applied Sciences and the School of Social Sciences and Human Services. The Adler gift will create a new two and one-half stories center, which will connect to the existing building by an overhead walkway.

“I am overwhelmed by the generosity of Mike and Elaine Adler who for so many years have been among the greatest friends and supporters of Ramapo College,” said Ramapo College President Peter P. Mercer. “This most recent gift will leave their indelible imprint on our outstanding Nursing program.”

The Adler’s gift will double the size of the College’s current nursing simulation lab to eight stations with adjoining computer labs capable of seating up to 50 students each, and a tiered classroom with seating capacity for 60 students. Each floor will be designed for 10 to 12 faculty offices, and three to four laboratory / classrooms. A conference room, a student lounge, and a dean's suite will also be incorporated into the plans for the center.

“Well-educated nurses are the backbone of our society,” said Elaine Adler. “Mike and I are privileged to be able to help future generations of nursing professionals and prepare them for the challenges that face our region, state and country.”

The Adlers have been consistent supporters of Ramapo College for more than 20 years. Mrs. Adler is a member of the Ramapo College Board of Governors and the couple has provided numerous gifts to support the College's Annual Fund, student scholarships, the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Distinguished Citizens Dinner, the Golf Outing, as well as a capital gift for the Adler Theatre in the Berrie Center for the Performing and Visual Arts.

The Adlers founded The Adler Aphasia Center in Maywood in 2003 and have been honored nationally for their work in helping individuals with the disorder redevelop their communication skills. They support a number of community organizations. Mr. Adler is a member of the board of the National Aphasia Association and has served on the board of Hackensack University Medical Center and the United Jewish Community of Bergen County. Mrs. Adler is a trustee of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine, the Center for Interreligious Understanding and a founding board member of Gilda's Club of Northern New Jersey. She also serves on the board of the Community Resource Council and the USA Toy Library Association and is vice president of the Jewish Home and Rehabilitation Center in Rockleigh, NJ.

Ramapo College's nursing program has experienced unprecedented increases in enrollment since the program's inception in 1993. In response to a nationwide need, the faculty added a master's program in nursing education in 2001. Graduates serve as faculty members at both health care and undergraduate institutions. Unique clinical partnerships Englewood Hospital and Medical Center and The Valley Hospital, designated as Magnet Hospitals by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, allow Ramapo students to experience nursing in some of the best nursing departments in the country.

More than 460 students will be enrolled in the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence BSN and the MSN programs. The Center's nursing simulation laboratories will be used by health care professionals from across the region for training and professional development

The College's G-Wing is one of the oldest academic structures on campus and was completed in 1974, but has not undergone major upgrades or renovation. During the past five years, enrollment has grown tremendously and TAS is now the largest of the College's five schools and is need of state-of-the-art facilities to allow for undergraduate research work. The internationally-renowned architectural firm of Mitchell/Giurgola has drafted a preliminary design for the Adler Center and the renovation of the G Wing building.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fourth in the Best Regional Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which

include nursing and social work, as well as courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers four graduate programs as well as articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

Undergraduate students choose to concentrate their studies in one of five schools with more than 700 course offerings and 40 academic programs. Ramapo College boasts an average student/faculty ratio of 18:1 and average class size of 23, affording students the opportunity to develop close ties to the College's exceptional faculty.

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