NEWS RELEASE

Chartwell REIT Announces May 2011 Distribution

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MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO--(Marketwire - May 16, 2011) - Chartwell Seniors Housing Real Estate Investment Trust (TSX:CSH.UN) ("Chartwell REIT") announced today a cash distribution of $0.0450 per Trust Unit for the month of May, 2011. The cash distribution will be payable on June 15, 2011 to Unitholders of record on May 31, 2011.

Unitholders can participate in Chartwell's Unitholder Distribution Reinvestment Plan (DRIP). Eligible investors registered in the DRIP will have their monthly cash distributions used to purchase Trust Units, and will also receive bonus Units equal to 3% of their monthly cash distributions. The Plan offers Unitholders the opportunity to steadily increase their ownership in Chartwell REIT without incurring any commissions or brokerage fees. Complete details of the DRIP are available on Chartwell REIT's website at **www.chartwellreit.ca** or from a Unitholder's investment advisor.

Chartwell is a real estate investment trust that owns and operates a complete range of seniors housing communities from independent supportive living ("ISL") through assisted living ("AL") to long-term care ("LTC"). It is one of the largest participants in the seniors housing business in North America. Chartwell's aim is to capitalize on the strong demographic trends present in its markets to maximize the value of its existing portfolio of seniors housing communities, and prudently grow both internally and through accretive acquisitions.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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Source: Chartwell Seniors Housing REIT

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