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Housing for seniors with memory loss to expand in southern Maine

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PORTLAND, Maine — A Massachusetts-based developer of senior housing plans to invest \$65 million in three new facilities in southern Maine, expanding a location in Westbrook and adding locations in Wells and Brunswick.

The Northbridge Companies announced they plan to break ground next week on the new facilities that operate under the name Avita, which focus on housing for people dealing with memory loss.

The company said the expansion will create 215 new units for 253 new residents and will employ another 285 people.

“Our communities not only support seniors and their families, but are a vital resource to the area, generating 285 jobs in Brunswick, Wells and Westbrook,” Wendy Nowokunski, president of Northbridge Companies, said in a news release.

Northbridge plans to open two new Avita facilities in Brunswick and Wells — both about 47,700 square feet — and create a new addition to its Westbrook facility, called Stroudwater Lodge, that will feature two-bedroom units and amenities such as a barber shop, cafe, pub, outdoor patio, brain gym, a sun room and a courtyard.

Northbridge announced it plans to break ground on the new projects on Nov. 11 and Nov. 12 and expects the new facilities to open in the fall of 2016.