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PERKINS EASTMAN CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF VA ILLIANA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM'S MERCY HOUSING LAKEFRONT

Intergenerational Housing Development Will Provide Full Range of Care Services to Homeless Veterans in Central Illinois

Chicago, IL (July 21, 2015) International design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is pleased to announce that earlier today, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for Mercy Housing Lakefront, the new 74,100 sf housing development for Veterans and their families on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Illiana Health Care campus in Danville, IL. The Perkins Eastman design team was in attendance, represented by Principal Jerry Walleck AIA, LEED AP, Senior Associate JinHwa Paradowicz AIA, LEED AP BD+C, and Project Architect Ryan Stahlman LEED AP. In addition to design, the firm is providing planning and site programming services for Mercy Housing Lakefront. The development is targeting LEED Silver certification.

Mercy Housing Lakefront is part of the Veteran Administration's national Enhanced-Use Lease program which seeks to reuse underutilized VA properties to create safe, affordable, and permanent housing for homeless veterans and their families. The first phase of this multiphase development will include 65 new apartments, ranging in size from one to three bedrooms, as well as a new community center. The center will welcome other members of the VA community, creating an intergenerational gathering space that is accessible, hospitable, and visible.

Supporting the VA's mission of providing quality housing geared towards enabling veterans to achieve self-sufficiency, Perkins Eastman's design for Mercy Housing fully integrates the facility within the campus, allowing residents easy access to healthcare, counseling offices, a job-training center, and the nearby Danville Community College, among other amenities.

"We're quite proud to be partnering with Mercy Housing to expand and enhance this sustainable community," according to Jerry Walleck, Principal and Board Member, based in the firm's Chicago office. "Throughout the design of the Lakefront project, we gave careful consideration to the overall site planning and project location. This

new part of the VA community will serve many important roles, but it's also crucial that those the community serves feel welcome.”

About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 900 employees in 14 locations around the globe, Perkins Eastman practices at every scale of the built environment. From niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities, the firm's portfolio reflects a dedication to progressive and inventive design that enhances the quality of the human experience. With work in 46 states and more than 40 countries, the firm's portfolio includes transportation and public infrastructure, high-end residential, commercial, hotels, retail, office buildings, corporate interiors, schools, hospitals, museums, senior living, and public sector facilities. Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its offices in North America (New York, NY; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Francisco, CA; Stamford, CT; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, DC); South America (Guayaquil, Ecuador); North Africa and Middle East (Dubai, UAE); and Asia (Mumbai, India, and Shanghai, China).

Image available.

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