

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PERKINS EASTMAN CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS VETERANS HOMES IN NORTH LITTLE ROCK

### VA's New Community Living Centers Will Provide Critical Services to Veterans Including Long-Term Care and Rehabilitation

Chicago, IL (July 30, 2015) International design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is pleased to announce the start of construction on Phase 1 of the Central Arkansas Veterans Homes in North Little Rock, AR. Eventually comprising 12 new resident homes with a capacity for 168 residents, the new Community Living Centers will provide veterans of varying ages with integrated community households, designed to treat all manner of needs including long-term care, dementia care, respite, and rehabilitation services. The groundbreaking ceremony was held yesterday morning, July 29, with remarks from Governor Asa Hutchinson and various dignitaries from the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA).

Inspired by the national movement within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to implement significant change from an institutional model of care to a resident-centered model with a smaller-scale, intimate, home-like setting, the ADVA sought to initiate major change in how they provide care for the veterans in their state. The Chicago office of Perkins Eastman is providing architecture, planning, and interior design services for the new Homes.

According to Jerry Walleck AIA, Principal-in-Charge of the project and an attendee at yesterday's event, "Implementing this new culture of comprehensive care has been a hallmark of the ADVA's mission for some time, so we are quite proud to design this community and help realize their forward-thinking vision for North Little Rock."

The new 87,100 sf campus will be situated on a bluff in North Little Rock, overlooking the Arkansas River and within the historic Fort Logan H. Roots military base. Phase 1 will consist of eight new resident homes, a Community Building, and maintenance facility, with Phase 2 creating four additional homes. Each home will comprise 9,600 sf of space, including ten single-occupancy rooms and two double-occupancy rooms, all with private bath; centrally located common areas including living room, study,

dining room, kitchen and den, all featuring abundant natural light and ventilation; and front and back porches that allow for immediate outdoor access.

The Veterans Homes' Community Building will become the campus heart, offering a destination for residents and staff, and through its various amenities create true community living centers that can accommodate large events and provide smaller groups with an intimate gathering space. Above all, the Veterans Homes were conceived and designed to offer residents and their families with a fully accessible environment that fosters independence, a better quality of sustainable living, and a great place for the veteran community of Central Arkansas to come together.

## 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).

Images available.

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