



FOR: Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois
www.hospiceanswers.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOSPICE AGENCY BUILDS FIRST GREEN RESIDENTIAL HOSPICE HOME IN ILLINOIS

Barrington, IL — Imagine a beautiful oak savannah on a Midwest prairie, with paths of flowing water winding around the strong and mighty oak trees. The moving water in this picture symbolizes the ever-changing paths that our lives take as we grow older. This image, which is translated onto an 18-foot hand-painted mural in the front lobby of the soon-to-debut Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care, evokes the spirit of the 42,048 sf home, slated for a July 1, 2010 opening.

The entryway mural, created by artist Nora Johnson, illustrates a harmonious relationship between man and nature. The newly erected Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care, inspired by the ethics of Green Building, was designed and constructed within the guidelines for Silver certification of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System and is the first residential green hospice in Illinois. Project Manager and owner's representative Marjorie Pullinger, who oversees the construction of the home for HPNI, articulates, "I'm especially excited because I think sustainable structures are critical for our children and future generations. These structures, like the LEED-certified Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care, have less impact on the environment, not only during construction but for the life of the building."

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LEED CERTIFIED GREEN HOSPICE/Add One

LEED certification, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings, verifies that the Pepper Family Hospice Home is environmentally responsible, energy efficient and a healthy place to live and work.

During construction, 20% of all materials are extracted, processed and manufactured from within 500 miles of the home, located in Barrington, Illinois. Much of the building materials used have recycled content. Additionally, 75% of waste materials from the construction site are diverted from landfills. Natural sunlight streams through the windows of the hospice home and even the inside offices have windows permitting natural light to shine through, fulfilling one of the LEED requirements which state that 75% of the building's spaces receive natural sunlight.

To help support alternative transportation by staff members, the architects designed and installed bike racks, locker rooms and showers, encouraging staff to commute on bicycles, which produce no pollution. Furthermore, drivers of low emission vehicles get preferred parking and have designated parking spaces that are nearer to the building, fulfilling another LEED criteria for sustainable sites.

LEED certification ensures that the air inside the Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care is of superior quality – free from offgassing of potentially harmful chemicals normally found in new building materials and finishes. To cleanse the space at the conclusion of construction and prior to building occupancy, fresh air is continuously pulled through the building at a specific rate for approximately a week, creating a healthy and unpolluted environment to live and work which fulfills another LEED requirement.

LEED CERTIFIED GREEN HOSPICE/Add Two

Much thought and planning went into selecting the proper placement for the Pepper Family Hospice Home. The home's positioning on the lot ensures the environmental preservation of as much of the virgin site as possible as well as protects the area's original and natural habitats. Mature trees adorn the 6.7-acre lot surrounding the building, with native Midwest plantings planned to be incorporated throughout to restore natural habitats.

Site development is further enhanced by the volunteer creation of healing gardens for staff, patient, and visitor reflection.

Additionally, the large retention pond situated near the



entry onto the property, captures 100% of storm water runoff to prevent overflow onto adjacent properties and dependence on public storm water systems.

The environmentally responsible design of the Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care enables the staff of Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois to provide an extended level of care for its estimated 1,400 patients each year. As an engaging, well-appointed space with experienced staff to operate in this high-quality environment, the Pepper Family Home will bring expertise and compassionate care to area residents during their final days.

About Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois

Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois is a not-for-profit organization serving families throughout McHenry, Lake, Northwest Cook, Kane, Boone and DuPage counties. Founded in 1982, the agency provides comprehensive end-of-life care to over 1,400 patient families each year. The organization's palliative care program offers services for those who struggle with serious illnesses as well as pain and symptom management. Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois is

Medicare certified and accredited by the Joint Commission. For further information, please visit www.HospiceAnswers.org and www.PepperFamilyHospiceHome.org.

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