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### Contact:

Justin Wolf  
115 Fifth Ave.  
New York, NY 10003  
646.225.6293  
[j.wolf@perkinseastman.com](mailto:j.wolf@perkinseastman.com)  
[www.perkinseastman.com](http://www.perkinseastman.com)

## PERKINS EASTMAN CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF ARKANSAS STATE VETERANS HOME AT NORTH LITTLE ROCK

### New Community Living Centers Represent First Homes in the State Developed For Long-Term Care of Aging Veterans

Chicago, IL (November 11, 2016) International design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman, a renowned industry leader in the design and planning of residential and care environments for seniors, is proud to join the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA) this Veterans Day to cut the ribbon on the new Arkansas State Veterans Home at North Little Rock, situated on a pristine and brand new 31-acre campus on Fort Logan H. Roots. This milestone marks the grand opening of ADVA's Community Living Centers (CLCs), which broke ground on July 29 of last year, and represents the first such developments in the State of Arkansas built for the sole purpose of providing long-term care for aging veterans, including skilled nursing care, dementia care, and rehabilitation services. The Chicago office of Perkins Eastman provided architecture, planning and interior design services; Polk Stanley Wilcox, based in Little Rock, is the Architect of Record.

These eight new CLCs are built on the unique "small house" model of care, and are each fitted with 12 private bedrooms and adjoining private bathrooms. (Two rooms in each household are able to accommodate double occupancy if the need arises.) The CLCs are designed as integrated community households, wherein caregivers can attend to residents' respective needs in a homelike and socially active environment, as opposed to the more common institutional model of nursing facility.

The ADVA's move toward offering aging veterans—as well as Gold Star parents and spouses—a more thoughtful, resident-centered model of care demonstrates a clear commitment to fostering a sense of community and personalized living for those in need. In keeping with the small house model, each 10,000-square-foot home features universally accessible common areas including living room, study, dining room, kitchen and den, and front and back porches, all oriented to receive abundant natural light and ventilation, as well as assist with wayfinding and prioritize social interaction.

Additionally, a new Community Building sits in the heart of the new Arkansas State Veterans Home at North Little Rock's campus, providing a centralized destination for residents and staff, as well as the ideal venue for large events, performances, classes and other community activities.

According to Principal-in-Charge Jerry Walleck AIA, in attendance at today's ceremony, "Our team is very proud to partner with the ADVA and to help make this important community a reality. The vision for the Veterans Home all began with a desire and need to offer veterans and their families a hospitable and homelike environment that fosters independence, a better quality of sustainable living, and a great gathering place for the veteran community of Central Arkansas."

## About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 1,000 employees in 15 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; Dallas, TX; 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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