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Jericho Project Opens Doors To Kingsbridge Terrace, A New Affordable Residence in the Bronx For Homeless Veterans

Ribbon-cutting ceremony unveils Kingsbridge Terrace Veterans Residence, a green supportive housing project by OCV Architects.

Bronx, NY, November 12, 2012 – On November 8, 2012, green supportive housing at Kingsbridge Terrace Veterans Residence (Kingsbridge Terrace) was officially opened with a ribbon cutting and recognition ceremony. Designed by Oaklander, Coogan & Vitto Architects, PC (OCV), Kingsbridge Terrace is the second of two Jericho Project-sponsored veterans residences and it brings 76 units of green, supportive housing to veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan as well as those with a history of homelessness and substance abuse.

Conceptualized in 2006, Jericho Project's Veterans Initiative comprises three main components:

- the development of new supportive housing for veterans
- strategic efforts to stimulate the further development of supportive and affordable housing initiatives for veterans nationwide
- the development of innovative employment programs and partnerships for veterans

The six-story Kingsbridge Terrace, along with Fordham Village, are both Jericho Project Veterans Communities, housing dedicated solely for veterans in New York City and the first buildings of their kind in nearly 20 years. At the ceremony, Tori Lyon, Executive Director of Jericho Project, characterized the new residences as not just housing, but "places for veterans to call home," while United States Congressman Jose E. Serrano complimented the building for its generous provision of spaces for "services, not just places to sleep."

Together the two new buildings provide 132 units of supportive housing to homeless and at-risk veterans and the full range of Jericho's established support services coupled with veteran-specific programming, including professional counseling towards employment, family reunification, and mental health.

In their design, OCV took advantage of the sloping, triangular site with a dynamic building which provides an array of indoor and outdoor gathering areas for residents, visitors and case workers alike. With open, light-filled common areas, gyms and computer labs, and gardens and outdoor spaces, the new residence is designed to create a sense of community among veterans of all eras. Each of the 76 studio units is fully handicap adaptable and provides residents with a kitchenette and full-sized bathroom en-suite.

In addition to providing a healthy, attractive residence for tenants, the LEED-registered design provides Jericho Project with long-term savings in operations costs through its green approach. Sustainable features include:

- intensive and extensive green roofs
- pervious hardscapes



- energy efficient HVAC systems and appliances
- a microturbine for waste energy capture and reuse
- low impact materials such as those locally sourced, recycled, renewable and reclaimed

The project, which is registered for LEED Silver accreditation, proves that the challenge of achieving sustainability goals with tight budgets can be elegantly met. With over 25 years of housing experience in New York City and State, OCV Architects is an expert in designing and building high quality, sustainable buildings.

Kingsbridge Terrace is OCV's latest -completed new construction supportive housing project for which design, construction documentation, construction monitoring and management, and LEED certification services were provided.

About Jericho Project

For nearly 30 years, Jericho Project has enabled thousands of men and women, many of whom have experienced chronic homelessness and substance abuse, to redirect their lives and achieve their greatest potential. Jericho Project serves an average of 750 adults and children annually in five service clusters: Supportive Housing, Workforce Opportunities, Family Programs, Veterans Initiative, and Homelessness Prevention. Jericho's model of supportive housing and counseling services has enabled 95 percent of its graduates to achieve independent living. www.jerichoproject.org

About OCV Architects

Oaklander, Coogan & Vitto Architects, P.C. is a versatile, award-winning architectural firm serving the New York Metropolitan area for over 30 years. OCV's body of work ranges from affordable and special needs housing to high-end private residences, from gut rehabs and historic preservation to innovative new construction. Having produced over 1,000 units of residential housing, the firm regularly partners with urban housing authorities and development groups to create sustainable, attractive residences within restrictive budgets. As a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, OCV strives to bring to each design respect for a project's site, setting, history and culture, while making every effort to build responsibly and sustainably. <http://www.ocvarch.com>.

For further information on this release, Kingsbridge Terrace, or similar projects, please contact:

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