

NEWS

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HOSPICE OF NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS ANNOUNCES PLANS TO CONSTRUCT NEW HOSPICE HOME AND CENTER FOR CARE

Barrington, IL (Aug. 19, 2008) Officials from Hospice of Northeastern Illinois (HNI) received approval from the Village of Barrington to proceed with plans to construct an inpatient hospice home and center for care in Barrington.

The Village Board, which met during a regular meeting Monday, Aug. 18, voted unanimously to approve all plans for the 42,000-square-foot facility which will be the first LEED-certified, free-standing hospice home in the state of Illinois.

Located on Lake Zurich Road, off Route 14, adjacent to Citizen's Park, the building will consist of 16 inpatient rooms, a family room, children's play area, dining room, clinical team space, staff and volunteer training/education rooms, quiet/meditation room, the Center for Loss and Hope (bereavement support), and administrative offices.

"We are very pleased that we have received strong support from the Village of Barrington Board to proceed with our plans to build a new Hospice Home and Center for Care," stated Bill Ries, interim president and CEO at HNI. "We are delighted to be able to move forward with this exciting project that will allow Hospice of Northeastern

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Illinois to extend its circle of care to even more patients and families who are facing end of life.”

Located on 6.7 acres of partially wooded land, the new hospice home and center for care will not only allow HNI staff to continue to care for 1,300 patients each year who are in their own homes or at extended care facilities, it will give additional patients who can no longer be cared for at home a home-like facility in which to spend their final days.

“The Boards and Administration recognized if HNI is to continue to fulfill its mission and maintain its commitment to patients and families throughout its six-county service area, it is imperative to develop this additional facility,” said Dr. Alan Rozen, director of Medical Services at HNI. “Not all patients can be cared for at home. A hospice residence will make it possible for patients with pain and symptom management needs to be cared for in a home-like setting by a staff of clinical experts who are specially trained in end-of-life care,” he said.

The new Hospice Home and Center for Care will be constructed in line with the guidelines for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. LEED-certified, also referred to as “Green” buildings, cost less to operate and maintain, are energy- and water-efficient, are healthier and safer for occupants, and use resources more effectively. This facility will be among the first LEED-certified hospices in the United States.

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HNI elected to have the building designed to accommodate 16 patient rooms, which is the maximum limit allowed for hospice residences by the State of Illinois, according to Ries.

The community-based, non-profit agency has been involved in the silent phase of a capital campaign to raise a minimum of \$15 million to construct the inpatient hospice facility which will also house the agency's staff offices. "Because of donations made by generous individuals, and 100-percent participation by all board members, we've already raised \$12.6 million," said George Yapp, a member of HNI's board of directors and a co-chair for the Hospice Home capital campaign.

The announcement to pursue the development of a Hospice Home and Center for Care was made at the HNI's 2007 Gala. Since then, a Campaign Steering Committee was formed and has been guiding the process each step of the way.

The property for the new free-standing facility, conveniently located for HNI's surrounding six-county service area, is currently owned by the Pepper family of Barrington, and will be sold to HNI below market value. In addition, the Peppers became the lead donors in the capital campaign, with a contribution of \$3 million. In recognition of this generosity, the new building will be called the Pepper Family Hospice Home and Center for Care.

Other lead donors include Barrington residents James and Patricia Lancaster and Freddie Smith Pederson, who have pledged \$1 million, and North Barrington residents

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Vincent and Patricia Foglia have also provided strong support.

Working with a nationally recognized architect who specializes in the design of hospice buildings, the interior plan has been created and refined thanks to the diligent efforts and input from all members of the Hospice staff.

“Now having received approval from the Village, we are on track to break ground this fall,” said Ries.

HNI also operates an inpatient unit (IPU), a seven-room facility located in Woodstock within the Centegra Memorial Medical Center’s South Street Campus. The new facility in Barrington will differ from the Woodstock IPU since it is not affiliated with or located within an established hospital, which has allowed HNI staff to design and create an environment of care that is unique and mirrors the Hospice philosophy, mission and values. Aesthetically, the facility will be located in a wooded, retreat-like setting which will include gardens, walking paths and communal space for quiet and social time.

Hospice of Northeastern Illinois is a community based, not-for-profit organization serving families throughout McHenry, Lake, Northwest Cook, Kane, Boone and DuPage counties. Celebrating its 26th year of service, Hospice of Northeastern Illinois provides comprehensive end-of-life care to nearly 1,300 patient families each year. Hospice of Northeastern Illinois is Medicare certified and accredited by the Joint Commission. For information, visit its web site at www.HospiceAnswers.org.