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Construction Begins on VNA Homecare's New Operational Headquarters

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK — VNA Homecare, a local leader in home health care services, began a new chapter in their 127-year history on Thursday, January 19 with a groundbreaking ceremony for their new 47,000-square-foot operational headquarters at 1050 West Genesee Street, Syracuse. Members of the organization's leadership team and Board of Directors joined representatives from King & King Architects and the Hayner Hoyt Corporation to mark the momentous occasion.

Built in 1921, VNA Homecare's current headquarters, also located at 1050 West Genesee Street, is beyond its intended lifespan and no longer meets the system's needs. In addition, a 2014 building condition assessment established a need to replace the entire structure, as the exterior shell and perimeter have suffered extensive moisture penetration and weathering. After much deliberation, the system's leadership and Board of Directors decided to build a new structure at the same location, as doing so will best serve the growing population within Central New York. Additionally, the location is a centralized point for the majority of the system's 500 employees who, while traveling across a 48-county service area, use the headquarters as their main landing spot for training, documentation, meetings/seminars, etc.

The new building will allow for an expanded and centralized location of VNA Homecare's Continuing Care Call Center, which will serve as the point-of-entry for home and community-based services. In addition, space will be allocated for public use, bringing community members closer to the services that can assist them across the lifespan and continuum of care. The new building will also provide an additional 9,000 square feet of floor space, allowing for: an expanded lobby/waiting area; public and private elevators; community room; staff gym; outpatient PT/OT suite; expanded Eldercare Social Day Program; exterior courtyard; and additional parking.

The architect for the building project is King & King Architects, LLP of Syracuse. The construction company is the Hayner Hoyt Corporation, also of Syracuse. The project is expected to be in complete in approximately 18 months.

"This event marked the moment when years of planning and preparation finally came to realization," said Kate Rolf, President and CEO. "At the culmination of this project, VNA Homecare's organizational headquarters will be a branded facility and community asset, helping us better serve our mission of bringing care to patients in their own homes, as well as bringing the community into ours."

Photo Caption: Breaking ground on VNA Homecare's new operational headquarters. Pictured from left: Paul L. Shubmehl, CPA, Treasurer, Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York Board of Directors; Shannon Brennan, King & King Architects; David Johnson, AIA, LEED AP, Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York Board of Directors; Andrea Lazarek-LaQuay, RN, MS, Chief Clinical Officer, VNA Homecare; John L. Clark, SIOR, Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York Board of Directors; Kate Rolf, MBA, FACHE, CHCE, President & CEO, VNA Homecare; Cheryl Manna, Chief Operating Officer, VNA Homecare; Jeffrey Pawlowski, King & King

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Architects; James E. Coulthart, Executive Vice President, Onondaga County Medical Society; June Castle, CHCE, Chief Financial Officer, VNA Homecare; Thomas H. Dennison, Ph.D., Chair, Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York Board of Directors; Kimberly Graf, Vice President of Public Relations & Corporate Communications, VNA Homecare; Christopher Portner, Director of Plant Operations; VNA Homecare; and Jeremy Thurston, President, The Hayner Hoyt Corporation.

About VNA Homecare

VNA Homecare is a full-service home health care agency committed to making a profound difference in the lives of our patients by providing expert, high-quality care where they want it most – in their homes. Our entities include the Visiting Nurse Association of Central New York, Inc.; the VNA Foundation of Central New York Inc.; Independent Health Care Services, Inc.; Home Aides of Central New York, Inc.; Eldercare Social Day Program; VNA Homecare Options, LLC; and the Eldercare Foundation, Inc. Our goal is to deliver an unprecedented level of home health care specifically designed to meet the needs of those who mean the most to us – our patients. Our focused approach improves the quality of each patient's life and helps each individual achieve maximum independence. For more information, please contact us at 315.477.HOME or visit us online at www.477HOME.org.

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