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ELIZABETH SETON PEDIATRIC CENTER RECEIVES YONKERS PLANNING BOARD APPROVAL
JULY 2009 GROUNDBREAKING PLANNED FOR \$125 MILLION PROJECT

(New York, NY) At its March 25, 2009 meeting, the Yonkers Planning Board granted site plan approval to Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center to build a 137-bed, specialty pediatric long-term nursing facility and affiliated school on a 6.5 acre site in Executive Park, Yonkers.

Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center plans to break ground in July 2009 to construct a 4-story, 165,000 square foot center for pediatric medical, nursing, rehabilitative, palliative care, educational and home care services. The Center serves children from birth through age 21 with complex medical diagnosis and disabilities. It is one of only two pediatric nursing facilities in downstate New York, and the only one approved to offer services to ventilator-dependent children.

“These approvals mark a critical milestone in our journey to establish a permanent home for the Pediatric Center.” stated Patricia A. Tursi, Chief Executive Officer. “We are simply thrilled to be one step closer to moving to Yonkers in 2011 and we are very grateful to Mayor Phil Amicone, the Planning Board, and the Yonkers community -- especially new friends we met during this process like John Larkin, President, and the Nepera Park – Grey Oak Neighborhood Association -- who have not only embraced our vision for this needed pediatric center, but who have already embraced us as neighbors.”

Founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of New York, the Center is presently located in New York City in 90,000 square feet of leased space in a building that has been sold and must be vacated by 2012. After a lengthy and extensive search for suitable space in Manhattan and the surrounding boroughs, the Center's Board of Trustees and leadership chose the 6.5 acre Executive Park site.

"The Yonkers site gave us everything we were looking for including a convenient location and a site that allowed us to custom-design a "LEED-certified" building and grounds that could meet the special needs of our children, our families and our caregivers," according to Ms. Tursi. "The Yonkers site represents the chance to establish a permanent home for this critical work" she added.

When completed, the new facility will feature a 137-bed inpatient center organized into 6 "neighborhoods" and a 15-classroom school for the resident children. Other features will include: occupational, speech and physical therapy suites; dining, play, and family rooms; an aquatic therapy center, a gymnasium, music and art rooms, outdoor play areas and therapy gardens.

"The new Center's design will be a dramatic improvement over our current space limitations," according to Ms. Tursi, "It will be extremely child and family friendly with well-conceived space for bedrooms, classrooms, community and quiet rooms, recreation areas, therapeutic suites, and family respite."

The total project costs are estimated at \$125 million. The project will be financed through a HUD-insured bond issue for over \$100 million and the balance through contributions including proceeds of a capital campaign titled "Let Us Build a House." The architect is Perkins and Eastman and the General Contractor is Andron. Occupancy is planned for Spring 2011.

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The Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center and John A. Coleman School are committed to changing the lives of medically fragile children, one child at a time. The Center serves children from infancy through age 21 from the Boroughs of New York and Westchester and Putnam Counties who suffer from premature birth complications, cerebral palsy, congenital heart disease, chronic lung disease, chromosome disorders, metabolic disorders, respiratory disorders, muscular and neurological diseases, and immunodeficiency syndromes. The majority cannot walk, eat or breathe independently. 75% require long-term care; 40% receive palliative care. To learn more please visit www.setonpediatric.org