



NEWS RELEASE



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INGLIS & MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS PARTNER ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

61 Units Planned For Mobility-Impaired and Low Income Retirees **GROUNDBREAKING FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST**

PHILADELPHIA (June 14, 2013) – **INGLIS**, a key provider of services and housing for people living with disabilities in the Philadelphia region for 136 years, and the North American province of **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS (MMS)**, an international, Catholic religious community of 600 women dedicated to health care and healing, **completed a financing package to build 61 units of fully-accessible, low-income housing in the Fox Chase area and will break ground FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST, 2013.**

The \$13.5 million project, to be called Mission Green, will be constructed on the grounds of the 69-acre North American headquarters of the MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS, located at 8400 Pine Road. The final element of supplemental financing was approved in March by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for low-income housing tax credits. **INGLIS** has committed \$1.7 million to the development and **MMS** are contributing the land on which the housing will be built. **The project is designed to meet or exceed PHFA Green Building standards.**

“We see this joint effort as addressing a need shared both by members of our Order who are reaching retirement age and the community at large,” said **Sister Suzanne Maschek**, a **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS’** North American Coordinator. “We’re especially pleased to be working with **INGLIS**, with its more than a century of experience in compassionately addressing the needs of people with mobility challenges.”

“We’re delighted to receive the green light on this vital project,” said **Gavin Kerr**, **INGLIS** President and CEO. “The partnership of **INGLIS** and **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS** addresses a lack of senior accessible, affordable housing in both Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties.” (The site is located along the city/county border). Kerr stated that **INGLIS** currently has more than 300 people living with disabilities on its waiting list for affordable, accessible housing.

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The **INGLIS-MMS** project was one of 32 approved by PHFA statewide to share in \$28.5 million in tax credits. Mission Green will set aside 10 units for significantly disabled individuals who are 55 years of age and older. The remaining fully accessible units will be available to low-income seniors over 55. **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS** hope Mission Green will become home for some of its senior Sisters.

The facility will include an on-site community room with lounge and laundry on each floor. On-site parking will be available and each unit will be served by high-speed digital service.

MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS (www.medicalmissionsisters.org), founded in 1925 in Washington, D.C., were the first Catholic Sisters to serve as medical doctors, surgeons and obstetricians. Their work began in what was then North India (now Pakistan) among women who had no access to care. Today their 600 members from 23 different nations serve those who are sick, poor and isolated from basic health care and services in 17 nations around the world. **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS** have had their North American headquarters in the Fox Chase section of Philadelphia since 1939. Here the Sisters offered complementary health care, wellness classes and certificates in holistic health at their Center for Human Integration (CHI) for 25 years. In other areas of North America, MMS today serve as a healing presence among those who are sick, elderly, trafficked or exploited, former addicts, homeless, or in need of hospice care. From California to Florida, from Massachusetts to the U.S.-Mexican border, and in many areas of Philadelphia, **MEDICAL MISSION SISTERS** are present in a healing way to persons of all ages and stages of life.

INGLIS (www.inglis.org) enables people with disabilities - and those who care for them - to achieve their goals and live life to the fullest. Serving more than 1000 people daily, **INGLIS** includes a specialty nursing care facility providing long-term, residential care for 297 adults with physical disabilities including multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury and stroke, among others. Residents receive rehabilitative medical and nursing care; physical, occupational and speech therapies; and social enrichment programs. In addition, **INGLIS** offers services to more than 800 people living independently in the community including accessible housing, care management (helping people navigate the health care system), adult day care programming and community employment. **INGLIS** is the largest provider of affordable accessible housing in the Greater Philadelphia region with 208 housing units currently, not including Mission Green. **INGLIS** developed, assembles and markets a patented hands-free water bottle for wheelchair users called Drink-Aide®. All **INGLIS'** services and programs are designed to enable people with physical disabilities to enjoy life with the greatest amount of independence and mobility.

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