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**Focal Point Community Campus given American Institute of Architects'
2013 National Healthcare Design Award**

Recognized by the AIA as “a new paradigm in the industry”, Focal Point combines the best in design and functionality in order to serve and revitalize Chicago’s Southwest and West Sides

CHICAGO, October 11, 2013 — Focal Point’s [breakthrough model](#) for community development earned yet another accolade, the project has been recognized with the [2013 National Healthcare Design Award](#) for Master Planning Urban Design from the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

HDR Architecture feels that Focal Point is “both an anchor and change agent” for the surrounding Chicago neighborhoods and had this to say about the project and the reason they are excited about it:

“Acting as both an anchor and a change agent, the hospital is envisioned as an urban campus that fosters a relationship between the hospital and its community”, stated Abigail Clary, Regional Director, Healthcare, HDR Architecture. “This system serves as the interface between the world of healthcare and the world beyond, and it literally brings the two together – a new paradigm in the industry.”

The AIA jury who selected Focal Point for the award highlighted that the community campus goes “beyond the norm of the healthcare monolith” and “represents a trend for health and community integration especially within urban environments”.

Continued support of Focal Point’s revolutionary vision demonstrates that with hard work, dedication and innovative problem solving, community hospitals can adapt and thrive in order to continue to serve deserving neighborhoods – even in the face of these uncertain financial times.

“We are incredibly honored to have Focal Point receive this award from the American Institute of Architects. It is further validation of Focal Point’s cutting edge vision to reinvent community development and be the solution these great Chicago neighborhoods deserve. We are excited to bring vital medical, educational and retail services to them in a financially self-sustainable way and be a model for Chicago and the nation”, stated Guy A. Medgalia, President & CEO, Chicago Southwest Development Corporation.

From North Lawndale to Little Village to Back of the Yards, surrounding neighborhoods are facing great challenges like high unemployment, high dropout rates and limited access to primary healthcare providers. Focal Point community campus will change that and become the central gathering place where residents can come to meet all of their daily needs in a safe and family friendly environment—with access to everything from healthcare and wellness services to retail, education, arts and recreation.

Focal Point will operate on an innovative self-sustaining funding model where the for-profit elements of the campus support the not-for-profit elements, allowing Focal Point to expand a variety of services to these low-income neighborhoods despite declining financial support from the government. By fostering for- and non-profit collaboration, Focal Point sets a new standard not only for Chicago but for underserved urban communities across America.



About Focal Point

The Focal Point community campus will serve as a source of financially sustainable community development to help improve the lives of more than 400,000 residents on the West and Southwest Sides of Chicago, representing North Lawndale, Little Village, Pilsen, Brighton Park, Back of the Yards, and Archer Heights neighborhoods. With plans for a nearly 1 million square foot complex that offers retail, wellness, education, arts and recreation services customized to the needs of the community, the new campus will focus on the complete well-being of community members, instead of purely on one element — health care. The new campus will be housed on the approximately 11-acre lot of land at 31st and Kedzie, the former site of the Washburne Trade School.

Chicago Southwest Development Corporation – along with leaders from Saint Anthony Hospital – is leading this project that will serve as a model to change the face of community development across the country. Together, these organizations have a legacy in the Chicago area of serving as leaders, staying true to their inclusive, neighborhood driven philosophy to strengthen the community through the power of partnership and quality health care that leaves no one behind.

More information is available at www.FocalPointChicago.org or call 773.484.1898 or you can follow us on Facebook (FocalPointChicago) and Twitter (@FocalPointChi).

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