



Mercy Housing

# NEWS

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## **Mercy Housing, Providence Hospital and Volunteers of America Southeast celebrate grand opening of new affordable senior property in Mobile**

*Rendu Terrace will offer low-income seniors safe, attractive, affordable housing*

**MOBILE, Ala.** – Community leaders in affordable housing and health care, including Mercy Housing CEO Sister Lillian Murphy, RSM, Providence Hospital President and CEO Clark P. Christianson, and Volunteers of America Southeast President and CEO Wallace Davis, celebrated the grand opening of Mercy Housing’s newest affordable housing property for Alabama seniors – Rendu Terrace.

The celebration featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the dedication of the community room. Rendu Terrace includes 49 one-bedroom apartments and one two-bedroom employee unit, a community center, walking paths and gardens. The property will be home to residents 62 years and older who can live independently. To qualify, residents must make no more than \$17,350 or less for a single person and \$19,800 or less for two people. The apartments are subsidized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and residents will pay no more than 30 percent of their gross adjusted income in rent.

“Across the nation, cities like Mobile are looking for ways to provide quality affordable housing for the increasing number of seniors who cannot afford the cost of living. These seniors are the heart of our families and communities and they deserve the standard of living that we would hope for all of our family members,” Sister Lillian said. “Rendu Terrace has been under development for several years, and it was only possible through the collaboration and support of several organizations. Providence Hospital, the Daughters of Charity and Mercy Housing came together to build Rendu Terrace with the common mission to provide program-enriched affordable housing for Mobile’s seniors. We are thankful to our partners who helped make Rendu Terrace possible.”

Rendu Terrace is a product of Mercy Housing’s Strategic Healthcare Partnership with Ascension Health, Providence Hospital’s parent organization. Through the partnership, which began in 1998, Ascension Health and eight other major health care systems across the country work with Mercy Housing to increase access to health care and affordable housing in the communities they serve. As of summer 2006, the partnership had contributed to the creation of 188 properties with 8,450 rental homes valued at \$867 million.

“The opening of Rendu Terrace is the culmination of many years of hard work and a longstanding desire to improve living conditions in the Mobile Terrace area,” said Clark P. Christianson, president and CEO, Providence Hospital. “We sincerely appreciate everyone who has had a role in making this day possible.”

After Rendu Terrace opens, Volunteers of America Southeast will manage the property. Residents will have access to on-site management, community service providers and a community building that includes a computer lab, multi-purpose room and laundry facilities. Rendu Terrace is close to the Providence Outreach Services Senior Center, a facility developed by Providence Hospital in 2000. Rendu Terrace residents will have access to health screenings, social activities and shared meals offered at the senior center.

“Volunteers of America Southeast is pleased to be a part of this much needed development,” said Wallace Davis, President and CEO of Volunteers of America Southeast. “We look forward to serving the elderly community through the provision of safe, affordable housing.”

Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization that offers services to people in need. Volunteers of America Southeast, Inc., initiated its service network in 1980 by establishing three group homes for the developmentally disabled. Today, the affiliate has grown to be the second largest in the National Volunteers of America family, serving thousands of persons daily in 27 communities throughout Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia.

Providence Hospital, a 349-bed full-service medical center, has been serving, caring for and healing people in Mobile and southwest Alabama since 1854. Nearly 2,400 associates of this Catholic health ministry bring a special commitment to caring for approximately 16,000 inpatients and 150,000 outpatients each year. The Cancer Center at Providence is Alabama’s only affiliate of M. D. Anderson Physicians Network®, and Providence is the area leader in heart and vascular services, performing more open-heart surgeries than any other hospital in south Alabama. The Family Birth Center at Providence offers the area’s only all-in-one birthing rooms, and Providence delivers more babies than any other private hospital in the region.

Mercy Housing, a national not-for-profit affordable housing organization headquartered in Denver, has a presence in 41 states, serves more than 58,000 people each day and has developed more than 19,100 homes. About 70 percent of Mercy Housing’s portfolio is rental homes, and the remaining 30 percent is homeownership. Mercy Housing serves families, seniors and people with special needs (formerly homeless, people with HIV/AIDS, people who are chronically or mentally ill, and the developmentally disabled). For more information about Mercy Housing, please visit [www.mercyhousing.org](http://www.mercyhousing.org).

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