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Poydras Home Breaks Ground on New Expansion
Continuing care retirement community is celebrating 195 years of service in New Orleans

New Orleans, LA (April 25, 2012) – At a groundbreaking ceremony this morning, Poydras Home announced plans for an upcoming expansion. Councilmember Stacy Head joined Poydras Home for the ceremony, which kicked off plans for the addition of 11 apartments for assisted dementia care and 22 for classic assisted living. 2012 marks Poydras Home's 195th year of service in New Orleans, making the organization the second oldest nonprofit in the city.

During the ceremony, Jay Rive, CEO of Poydras Home; Dena Olivia, Board of Trustees president for Poydras Home; Cleland Powell, Advisory Council chair for Poydras Home; and Councilmember Head spoke about the expansion and the impact of the organization over the last two centuries.

"Today is a celebration of the past, present and future of Poydras Home," said Jay Rive, CEO of Poydras Home. "We have worked in the New Orleans community for nearly 200 years in different capacities and are pleased to celebrate the next chapter in our growth."

The expansion includes the addition of a new building, with a total of 33 apartments, to the grounds of Poydras Home. The addition of 11 apartments for assisted dementia care will allow Poydras Home to serve a growing need in the area. Renovations are also planned for the existing dining hall, multipurpose room, chapel and therapy rooms, enhancing the scope and quality of care for current and future residents. Poydras Home has been at its current location, on the corner of Jefferson and Magazine Streets, since 1857. The construction is expected to be completed in Summer 2013.

"Poydras Home has been a part of our Uptown community for 155 years," said Councilmember Stacy Head, New Orleans City Council, District B. "This organization's expansion is a testament to the long standing commitment to New Orleans and its continued efforts to serve our residents."

Speaker Dena Olivia recognized Poydras Home's oldest resident, 101 year old Katherine Bergeret, with a special gift during the ceremony. Bergeret has resided at Poydras Home since 2003. Poydras Home's Activities Assistant Gwen Francois closed the event with a special hymn, following a blessing of the ground by Poydras Home's Chaplain, Reverend Roosevelt Stephens, by singing Josh Grobin's "You Raise Me Up."

For more information about Poydras Home, its services or its expansion, please visit www.poydrashome.com or call 504-897-0535.

Founded in 1817, the Poydras Home works to respect and preserve the dignity of the human spirit among the elderly by continuing the legacy of care through quality supportive services for the elderly, promoting understanding for their particular needs and advocating on their behalf. Poydras Home is located in the heart of Uptown at 5354 Magazine Street. Visit www.poydrashome.com or call 504-897-0535 for more information.

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