

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2007

**NEW ORLEANS MISSION FAMILY CENTER OPEN FOR PUBLIC TOUR
The \$1.5 million Facility Funded by Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund**

What: AIA New Orleans will lead a tour of the newly completed New Orleans Mission Family Center. The New Orleans Mission Family Center is the first post-Katrina, LEED Silver certified sustainable building project.

When: Thursday, August 23
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Where: New Orleans Mission Family Center
1819 Clio Street
New Orleans, LA

(New Orleans, LA) – AIA New Orleans presents a free tour of the newly completed New Orleans Mission Family Center for this month’s meeting of architects, students, developers and the public.

The 4,400-square-foot, two-story, \$1.5 million family center was made possible through the Gulf Coast Rebuilding Fund, a corporate partnership led by California-based HomeAid, a nonprofit builder of transitional housing; Tulane University's School of Architecture, including design work by third and fourth year students; and two New Orleans architecture firms, Favrot & Shane and Perez, APC.

The new building is on the site of the historic New Orleans Mission, which was badly damaged during Hurricane Katrina.

The meeting and tour are free and open to the public and media. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP for the New Orleans Mission Family Center tour by email to rsvp@aianeworleans.org or by calling 504.525.8320.

AIA New Orleans is a non-profit organization comprised of nearly 400 professional architects and connected to the national chapter of 80,000 professional architects worldwide. Founded in 1910, AIA New Orleans’ mission is to represent, educate and serve the architecture profession and entire community as concerns the built environment. The chapter hosts more than 35 different events each year for its members and the public, including a lecture series, continuing education classes, building tours, architecture exhibitions, an annual architecture film festival and an annual Design Awards program. AIA New Orleans has been closely involved with the rebuilding efforts, participating in programs and events to serve the community, including the Governors Conference in November 2005; a charrette for Urban Impact Ministries resulting in sustainable home designs for odd-sized lots in Central City in 2006; co-sponsoring and co-organizing the 2006 Housing Solutions Summit, which provided free seminars and education to over 30,000 New Orleans residents; and the ongoing Architect Pairing Program that pairs volunteer architects with homeowners adversely affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

For more information on AIA New Orleans please visit www.aianeworleans.org or call 504.525.8320.

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