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**ARAB AMERICAN AND CHALDEAN COUNCIL ANNOUNCES
PARTNERSHIP TO BUILD NEW HOMES IN DETROIT**

*Nonprofit to assist in finding applicants for project aimed at revitalizing
Seven Mile Road Community*

LATHRUP VILLAGE, Mich. – April 23, 2013 – The Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC), a premier nonprofit human service organization serving southeast Michigan, today announced its partnership with Penrose Village II, LDHA LP to build new homes and apartments in the City of Detroit. The homes will be located in the ACC’s Seven Mile Project, a Community and Neighborhood Development Initiative focused on revitalizing the area between Woodward and John Reconomically and residentially. The announcement was made at the ACC Board of Directors/Advisory Board meeting.

Penrose Village II will consist of 48 single family units: with a combination of two-bedroom duplexes, three-bedroom duplexes, and three-bedroom single-family homes, as well as a central “farmhouse” with offices for service providers and community gardens. The ACC will serve as the primary service provider for the development, which is targeting those with special needs including the homeless, victims of domestic violence and the disabled.

The first house is slated to be completed and ready to move into by the end of April. The rest will be occupied by the end of the fall.

“The creation of Penrose Village II is a major part of the ACC’s plan to bring the Seven Mile area back to its former glory,” said Bob Ghannam, Director of Special Projects at the ACC. “Not only will those in need be able to afford new housing, they also will have easy access to many social services that can help them improve their lives.”

The ACC will provide residents and others in the area with social and behavioral therapy, drug abuse prevention and treatment, infant care, the WIC Program and job training based upon referrals. All units will have Projected Based Vouchers, enabling tenants to use 30 percent of their income toward rent.

Individuals may qualify if their income falls within the allowable limits of 30 to 50 percent of area median income for Wayne County and if the criteria of homelessness or special needs is met. Those interested in being added to the waiting list may contact the ACC at 313-369-3102, Monday through Friday between 1 and 3 p.m. Organization staff will then schedule an appointment to determine initial certification and to assist in the completion of the application process. Proof of legal identity (birth) and proof of a valid social security number are required.

The ACC and MSHDA also are partnering with Detroit Community Health Connections (DCHC), KMG Prestige and Sylvester Hyman & Associates in the project.

About the Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

The Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC) is the premier nonprofit human service organization providing services to the Middle Eastern and mainstream communities in Southeast Michigan. Founded in 1979, the ACC provides counseling, health care, social services, employment training, job placement, translation, interpretation and youth services to more than 70,000 clients in metro Detroit. The ACC operates 40 outreach offices in the tri-county area, staffed with bilingual and trilingual professionals to serve the Arab American and Chaldean American populations and offer assistance to the Middle East refugee population. For more information, visit www.myacc.org or call (248) 559-1990.

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