



For Immediate Release  
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## **Bronson Breaks Ground on New Care Facility in Mattawan**

KALAMAZOO, Mich. -- Bronson Healthcare has begun development of Bronson Commons, a rehabilitation and skilled nursing community, at 23332 Red Arrow Highway in Mattawan. The 41 acre site is adjacent to Van Buren Emergency Medical Services, a not-for-profit ambulance company, of which Bronson is also an owner.

Services currently provided at Bronson Nursing & Rehabilitation Center (BNRC) in Lawton will be relocating to Bronson Commons in 2013. BNRC specializes in long- and short-term nursing care and therapy for patients following illness, injury or hospitalization. It has a workforce of 150 and offers a wide range of services and programs tailored to meet individual needs including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, wound and ostomy care, chronic disease management, psychiatry, hearing, podiatry, dental and optical services.

BNRC has been serving patients and families in Van Buren County since 1970 from its current location at 99 Walker Street in Lawton, Michigan. Originally founded as a family business, it was purchased by LakeView Community Hospital Authority in 1982 and became part of the Bronson health system along with Bronson LakeView Hospital in 2008.

Laura Hamann, BNRC director of extended care, says, "We are very excited to be designing a whole new environment of care in a location that will be more convenient for patients and residents, their visitors and our staff. Being just a mile from I-94 and part way between Bronson Methodist Hospital and Bronson LakeView Hospital is ideal for easily getting people to and from our facility. And, I can't say enough about how the private rooms and new surroundings will enhance each person's stay. Our residents and staff are very enthusiastic about the development of Bronson Commons."

Designed and engineered by Kalamazoo-based architectural firm Kingscott Associates, Inc. (architect of record) in partnership with Post Associates of Grand Rapids (design consultant), Bronson Commons will offer a state-of-the-art healing environment in a beautiful natural setting with pond and woodland views. The one story, 76,300 square foot facility will have 100 private rooms, wonderful amenities and offer separate rehabilitation and long term care areas. The heart of the facility is a cafe/dining area, which invites residents, families, and visitors to gather in an open light-filled living space to socialize and share a meal or just be together.

The building and site is being designed to meet LEED for Healthcare certification standards. Firms committed to the project include: CSM Group (construction management); TRO Jung|Brannen (mechanical & electrical engineering); O'Boyle Cowell Blalock & Associates (landscape design); JRA

Food Service Consultants, LLC (food service design); Prein & Newhof (utilities & environmental engineering); and Byce (LEED commissioning).

Construction will be completed in summer 2013 and, pending necessary approvals from state regulatory agencies, Bronson Commons is expected to open in August, 2013.

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### **About Bronson**

**Bronson Healthcare** is a not-for-profit, community-governed healthcare system headquartered in Kalamazoo, Michigan. With 6,600 employees, more than 1,000 physicians, and 773 licensed beds, Bronson is the largest employer and leading healthcare system in southwest Michigan. Bronson offers a full range of services from primary care to critical care across more than 60 locations. A national leader in healthcare quality, Bronson is an innovative, award-winning organization that partners with patients and families to achieve an exceptional care experience.

Key member organizations include: Bronson Methodist Hospital, Bronson Battle Creek Hospital, Bronson LakeView Hospital, Bronson Vicksburg Outpatient Center, Bronson Medical Group, Bronson Advanced Radiology Services, Bronson Home Health Care, Bronson Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Bronson Staffing Service, Bronson Lifestyle Improvement & Research Center and the Bronson Health Foundation.