News Release to the New North Inc.

(Founding member of the New North helps found the Wisconsin Veterans Village Association)

October 14, 2020

Appleton, WI

The Wisconsin Veterans Village Association has been recognized by the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce with the *Community Leadership Award* for small organizations.

Serving veterans in need of affordable housing throughout the New North region, the Wisconsin Veterans Village organization was officially formed just over two years ago by a number of regional leaders, many of whom are veterans themselves.

One of the New North co-founders, Dr. Tom Wiltzius, a Vietnam War and Persian Gulf War veteran, has co-led the founding of the Veterans Village.

According to Wiltzius, "Many veterans find themselves in acute need of affordable housing due to a life event. In the military, all of a person's basic needs are met...food, housing and medical support. As veterans transition back to civilian life, they must meet their own basic needs and access to affordable housing is key to a successful transition."

"Because affordable housing is in short supply throughout the New North and because many veterans may leave the military with other life challenges such as PTSD, MST, or disabling injuries among them, affordable housing is essential to a healthier transition," according to Keith Scott, President of the Veterans Village Board and Associated Bank executive.

Currently, the Wisconsin Veterans Village Association is collaborating with the Outagamie Housing Authority to rehab 48 existing apartments brought about by a successful Phase One capital campaign. WisVVA plans to build an additional 36 apartments through a future fundraising. If anyone wishes to honor a veteran in their family or organization with a donation, Wiltzius can be contacted at <u>Tom@WiltziusAssociates.com</u>.

More information about the Wisconsin Veterans Village is available at: <u>www.WisVVA.org</u>

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(Dr. Tom Wiltzius can be reached at 715-358-4940)