



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Kahn Certified by Planetree Visionary Design Network As Specialist in Evidence-Based Health Care Design

Detroit, Michigan, October 26, 2009 – The Albert Kahn Family of Companies (Kahn), a leading provider of architecture, engineering, planning, design and management services, is proud to announce its recognition as a certified Planetree design firm and member of the Planetree Visionary Design Network.

Honored at the 2009 Planetree Annual Conference in Baltimore (October 4-7), Kahn is one of only five firms nationwide to receive this certification. The designation establishes Kahn as a specialist in evidence-based health care design following the Planetree philosophy and its core components of healing architecture, such as welcoming a patient's family and friends, valuing human beings over technology, enabling patients to fully participate as care partners and fostering a connection to nature and beauty.

Certification assists hospitals that are planning construction or remodeling, especially Planetree affiliates, in finding a design firm committed to the same patient-centered care philosophy.

"These charter members of the Planetree Visionary Design Network are leaders in the field serving as catalysts for change in healing design. They fully embrace Planetree's philosophy of building and designing healing environments that provide the greatest opportunity for caring of the body, mind and spirit," says Kim Montague, AIA, LEED AP, Planetree's Director of Design and Consultation.

Kahn began the certification process in early 2009 by submitting a comprehensive self-assessment tool and application. The firm's leadership was then interviewed by Planetree representatives to discuss Kahn's commitment to designing healing environments, followed by a site visit to a local hospital to assess a Kahn-designed health care facility that demonstrates the Planetree model of care and key aspects of a healing environment.

For more than 15 years Kahn has led the charge in designing health care facilities that treat patients in terms of body, mind and spirit. Kahn has designed seven greenfield Planetree hospitals, more than any other architect worldwide. In all, the firm has designed more than 3.5 million square feet of patient-centered space totaling over \$1.5 billion in construction costs.

In 2004, Planetree awarded two Kahn-designed facilities the “Spirit of Caring Award” in recognition of architectural and interior design conducive to health and healing. The facilities were Aurora BayCare Medical Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin and Aurora Oshkosh West Clinic Facility Inpatient Expansion project in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The partnership between Kahn and Planetree not only stands the test of designing great health care facilities, but has merged into a relationship based on collaboration. Mr. Robert F. Sharrow, AIA, ACHA, LEED AP, Kahn’s Director of Health Care Planning, has also taken on promoting Planetree as a personal passion. Mr. Sharrow co-authored a chapter of Planetree’s *Putting Patients First – Second Edition*, a book published by the organization in late 2008. He is also serving on Planetree’s Visionary Design Network advisory board, which is responsible for updating the *Planetree Design Guidelines* manual.

Planetree is internationally recognized as a leader in the health care industry that promotes patient-centered care. Planetree serves as a catalyst and partner in the development and implementation of models of health care that cultivate healing of mind-body-spirit; are patient-centered, values-based, holistic; and support the safety of patients through active involvement in their own care.

Albert Kahn Associates, Inc. was founded in 1895 by world-renowned architect, Albert Kahn. Today, the Albert Kahn Family of Companies have grown to become worldwide leaders in architecture, engineering, planning, design and management. With offices in Detroit, MI; Birmingham, AL; Juarez, Mexico and Sao Paulo, Brazil, Kahn is well-conditioned to meet the changing needs of clients in a variety of market sectors, including health care, corporate, educational, automotive/industrial, research and technology, and government.

The Albert Kahn Family of Companies is comprised of Albert Kahn Associates, Inc., Kahn Global Services, Inc., Kahn Facility Management, Inc., Kahn Program Management, Inc., Kahn South, Inc., Kahn do Brasil Ltda., and Albert Kahn de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. Notable projects include a \$276 million replacement hospital for Henry Ford Health System in West Bloomfield, MI completed in 2009; and a \$320 million replacement hospital for Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare Elmhurst, IL to be completed in 2011.

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