

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SOLAR PANELS INSTALLED AT PEACEHAVEN COMMUNITY FARM, MAKING PEACEHAVEN FIRST "NET ZERO" GROUP HOME IN COUNTRY

July 28, 2014 – Continuing to meet its goal to be as self-sustaining as possible, Peacehaven Community Farm recently installed 54 solar panels on the property's barn. These panels will provide a 16.2kW solar energy system, providing all the annual electricity needs for Peacehaven's first residential home, Susan's View.

Susan's View was built by volunteers in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Greater Greensboro and will be completed in August. The home, which is being built to National Association of Home Builders Green Building's highest rating, will provide permanent, affordable housing in a supportive setting for four adults with special needs.

When Peacehaven opens the doors to new residents it will be the first net zero "group" home in the United States. This means that the amount of energy used by the home is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy created on the site.

Peacehaven was pleased to partner with Green State Power on the installation of the panels. Founded in 2008, Green State Power is a solar energy developer based out of Greensboro, NC.

"Green State Power is proud of the work Peacehaven is doing to create a sustainable home for those in need," said Green State Power President, Will Stewart. "The system installed at Peacehaven will eliminate 13 tons of carbon from being emitted into the atmosphere annually. That is the equivalent of taking two cars off the road or the work of 394 trees every year."

"It is a core value at Peacehaven to remain committed to environmental stewardship," said Buck Cochran, Peacehaven's Executive Director. "We are reducing our carbon footprint through the use of green building technologies and the efficient use of energy, water and other natural resources. This new solar system, providing all of our electrical needs, also greatly reduces the ongoing cost of operations, helping to keep the housing affordable for our core members."

**About Peacehaven:** Peacehaven Community Farm is a sustainable farm located on 89 beautiful acres of organic gardens, rolling pastures, and lush woodlands. We are dedicated to establishing an affordable housing community that provides a permanent home for adults with special needs in a supportive and family-like environment. We are embraced by the support of a diverse and dedicated community engaged in growing both vegetables and relationships.