## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## DAVIS DONATES SERVICES FOR CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HEALING GARDEN

Grand Opening of New Space Allows Patients to Spend Time Outdoors Safely

**Rockville, MD** (April 25, 2017) – April 28, 2017 marks a special day Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) in Washington, DC. A new outdoor space specifically designed and constructed for use by young patients and their families will officially open. DAVIS served as the general contractor for The Bunny Mellon Healing Garden Dedicated to the First Ladies of the United States. In addition to donating preconstruction, project management and executive leadership services, DAVIS did not charge a construction fee to build the space. This gift was valued in excess of \$200,000.

Project involvement began with a conversation between leaders at DAVIS, CoStar Group, Inc., and Perkins + Will, who designed the project. DAVIS has partnered with both firms for the past decade. Andy Florence of CoStar, and wife Heather Florence, led efforts to acquire charitable contributions for the \$3 million project. "This project just made sense. We were all in it together with the Hospital, every step of the way. It was a true team effort," said Dennis Cotter, Executive Vice President. Construction began in late 2015.

The 7,200-SF garden includes a fountain, trees, ambient lighting, benches and a multitude of plants overlooking the Capitol. Special care was taken to select plant materials that met infection control standards. The new space was built on a gravel rooftop which was not originally intended to hold the weight of a garden. As a result, the space required significant structural upgrades. Over 3,000 hours of steel welding and reinforcement took place directly above an existing 24-hour laboratory that services the entire Hospital. Temporary exhaust fans and carbon filters were used, along with other air quality and noise control measures, to eliminate smoke, odor, dust and noise. The outer perimeter of the garden, which faces the Capitol, is enclosed with a 7-FT high structural glass wall.

An integrated project delivery approach allowed DAVIS and all team members to meet key project milestones, including an initial soft-opening in December 2016. "Everyone involved wanted this project to exceed expectations. This was always about the children. We truly believe that the patient is our client, and we kept that front of mind throughout the entire project," said Jon Hancher, Vice President.

Some patients and staff have already been able to spend time in the Garden, which officially opens on Friday for use by the entire Hospital. DAVIS is currently serving as general contractor for an interior build-out of a hybrid catheterization laboratory for CNMC.

## **ABOUT DAVIS**

DAVIS Construction is the largest general contractor that **solely serves the Washington region**, building nearly one billion worth of construction a year; including some of the region's most complex and notable projects, across 10 diverse market sectors.

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