NEWVIEW OKLAHOMA RECEIVES $100,000 GIFT FROM OKLAHOMA NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Funds used to create adaptive teaching kitchen for the visually impaired

Oklahoma City, OK (September 13, 2017) – NewView Oklahoma recently received a $100,000 pledge from Oklahoma Natural Gas, a division of ONE Gas, to support their Home for Hope capital campaign. The gift will enable NewView to add an adaptive teaching kitchen that will be fully accessible to Oklahomans who are visually impaired at their new location at 4301 North Classen Boulevard in Oklahoma City.

“Being able to navigate a kitchen and cook meals is vital to individuals who are blind and visually impaired because it allows them live independently and maintain a healthy lifestyle,” said Lauren Branch, NewView president and CEO. “This supports our mission to help Oklahomans who are blind and visually impaired achieve their maximum level of independence where they live, learn, work and play.”

In addition to supporting construction costs, the Oklahoma Natural Gas gift will allow NewView to fully equip the kitchen with the latest in gas appliances which will be used by occupational therapists to teach cooking and other daily living skills.

“NewView Oklahoma has established itself as an important figure in our community by providing assistance and life skills to those living with blindness and visual impairment,” said Austin Manger, the Oklahoma Natural Gas regional manager of community relations. “Oklahoma Natural Gas is proud to support an organization that provides such an important service to its clients. NewView is empowering the community through their work, and we are happy to invest in their mission.”

In addition to the state-of-the art teaching kitchen, the new facility on North Classen Boulevard will be designed with a multitude of state-of-the-art upgrades including a braille lab, pediatric therapy, a technology training center (STEM), an independent living and job skills training area, three low vision exam lanes and a community room for group training, art classes, support groups and other activities. Vision impaired patients will be guided through the facility with directed lighting, which will feature adjustable intensity for different eye conditions. High-contrast colors will accentuate all edges and corners for fast navigation and non-reflective finishes will significantly reduce glare. In addition, a meticulously designed flooring layout will provide different surfaces such as carpet, tile and vinyl to provide textural cues and acoustic difference that help identify locations.

NewView Oklahoma is the only private in-state provider of comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to blind and vision-impaired Oklahomans. They have been awarded a 5-year accreditation certification through the National Accreditation Council (NAC), the only international accrediting body devoted to serving organizations that provide programs for blind and low vision consumers – recognizing NewView Oklahoma nationally as an organization that delivers the highest quality rehabilitation, employment and education services for people who are blind or have low vision. To learn more about NewView Oklahoma’s programs or clinical services operated by the organization, visit www.newviewoklahoma.org.
About NewView Oklahoma

NewView OKlahoma is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve their maximum level of independence through employment, low vision rehabilitation, and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the leading employer of the blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma and offers the only comprehensive Low Vision clinics in the state. Visit Newview online at www.newviewoklahoma.org or follow on Facebook and on Twitter.

About Oklahoma Natural Gas

Oklahoma Natural Gas provides clean, reliable natural gas to more than 861,000 customers in Oklahoma. They are the largest natural gas distributor in the state, in terms of customers. They are a division of ONE Gas, Inc. a stand-alone, 100 percent regulated, publicly traded natural gas utility that trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol “OGS.” ONE Gas is included in the S&P MidCap 400 Index, and is one of the largest natural gas utilities in the United States. For more information, visit the websites at www.oklahomanaturalgas.com or www.onegas.com. For the latest news about Oklahoma Natural Gas, follow us on Twitter @OklahomaNatural or Like Us on Facebook at Facebook.com/OklahomaNaturalGas