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**Nov. 7 Event Includes Brighton, CSU and Front Range Community College  
MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR “GREEN MAKEOVER” TO BE UNVEILED --  
OLD HOSPITAL BECOMES *BRIGHTON LEARNING AND RESOURCE CAMPUS***

**BRIGHTON, CO** -- The Brighton Learning and Resource Campus, BLRC, a visionary energy-efficient, environmental-friendly transformation of the former Platte Valley Medical Center (PVMC) site by a consortium of community leaders, has come to fruition in record time.

Best of all, the new Brighton campus will conserve human resources.

According to Brighton leaders, the new facility with its wide hallways and first-class new finishes is already 85 percent occupied and will provide consolidated community learning and resources, including targeted career training. Salud Family Health Centers is the major tenant of the campus, which has been redeveloped to conform to impressive LEED-inspired standards. LEED, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a designation developed by U.S. Green Building Council.

Front Range Community College and Colorado State University are two of the newest occupants of the campus and will provide employer-specific training for career advancement, as well as courses that are in demand locally.

They and other partners will conduct the official ribbon cutting at the campus on Fri., Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. One of the first tasks at the new campus – located at 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Egbert St. -- is to assist Vestas with its training needs. The wind turbine system leader has announced plans to hire 1,400 employees locally. Nursing programs also are being developed at the campus, along with a variety of other targeted training and education initiatives.

Other BLRC partners include the State of Colorado, Adams County Head Start, Project Lead the Way, Adams County School District 27J and Community Reach Center.

“The Brighton Learning and Resource Campus long term value to the community is expressed best in Governor Bill Ritter’s mission to increase accessibility to education,”

says Brighton Assistant City Manager Manuel Esquibel of the initiative. “That is coupled with First Lady Ritter’s steadfast commitment to improving access to healthcare and mental health services.” Esquibel also is responsible for managing the initiatives of the Brighton Urban Renewal Authority, BURA.

BURA purchased the 73,000 square-foot PVMC campus for about two million dollars; PVMC moved the last of its operations earlier this year to a new state of the art, 50-acre, \$138 million campus at Brighton’s 2,000-acre Prairie Center along the rapidly emerging I-76 retail, commercial and services corridor earlier this year.

It is estimated that \$3.5 - \$4.5 million of renovation and tenant finish work will be completed before work on the transformation is complete. Wide inviting halls, abundant natural light and a modern cafeteria grace the campus. In little over a year a circa 1961 hospital has been turned into what city leaders envision as a major economic engine for this rapidly growing community, where the population has doubled to 35,000 residents since 1990.

According to Brighton Economic Development Corp., the City of Brighton, which is the county seat of Adams County, which is the size of Rhode Island, already encompasses a service area of 150,000 residents who come to the city for everything from medical services to shopping and entertainment. “This new consolidated campus is the type of innovative partnership for which Brighton wishes to be known,” says Ray Gonzales, president and CEO, Brighton Economic Development Corporation. “Employers and our citizens gain greatly from consolidating resources wisely.”

Salud Family Health Centers already is operating from a 21,000 square-foot medical office building it purchased adjacent to the former hospital at a cost of one million dollars. Salud focuses on the needs of the medically indigent, the uninsured and the under insured. Community Reach Center will occupy the 14,000 square-foot second floor of the former hospital and provides care for hundreds of individuals who struggle with major mental illnesses and substance abuse that often lead to psychiatric hospitalization.

Earlier this year, Brighton was named the #2 high-growth place of note in the U.S. for 2007 by the Gadberry Group, a leading market intelligence firm. Vestas Corp., the world leader in wind-turbine manufacturing, recently announced plans to hire more than 1,400 jobs locally over the next 24 months.

To learn more about Brighton Economic Development Corporation, visit [www.brightonedc.org](http://www.brightonedc.org) or phone 303.655.2155.

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