



Hospice



Community Hospice Realizes Over Thirty Percent Savings With Siding Selection

On the banks of the mighty Mississippi River lies Davenport the regional hub of Eastern Iowa and home to just under 100,000. Davenport, self proclaimed “crossroads of America” is home to an incredible park system, upscale shopping districts, quaint tree lined residential streets and the new home of the Clarissa C. Cook hospice located just outside of Davenport in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Clarissa, wife of wealthy lawyer and financier Ebenezer Cook, lived a life of compassion and generosity by endowing their wealth to families in need and also benefiting Davenport and the surrounding area. Back in 1871 when the Cooks initiated their endowment, no one could possibly imagine that one of the results of their kindness would be the Clarissa C. Cook Hospice House.

November 7th, the opening day for the home stood out as more than just one milestone. In just under one year since fundraising began, the facility planning team raised over \$7.4 million for the construction and décor of the facility. The Clarissa C. Cook Hospice House is the first hospice to serve Eastern Iowa and the Quad Cities area.

The project Architect, Perry Gere of Gere Dismer Architects in Rock Island, Illinois selected Nichiha Sierra Premium™ Shake, Caramel pre-stained panels for the facility. The factors in the exterior siding selection boiled down to cost, with Nichiha fiber cement panels the clear winner.

The architectural team did their homework, and realized that both short and long costs savings would be realized by specifying Nichiha fiber cement panels. The short term cost savings realized by installing fiber cement panels as opposed to the wood cedar



Exterior View



Interior—Family Area



Fountain View

shakes was surprising. The ability to apply five square feet of siding per panel instead of individual shakes reduced the installation time and thus labor costs substantially. The second short term cost savings was in the materials themselves, the project realized an instant thirty percent savings in the materials alone.

Yet perhaps the most significant savings for the hospice facility will be the long term maintenance of the exterior. Fiber cement panels are known for their strength, durability, attractive appearance and longevity. The panels' inherent value of providing a lifetime of low-maintenance is a feature that makes fiber cement materials the fastest growing siding option in construction today. The lifetime financial outlay of maintaining and replacing rotted wood cedar shakes as opposed to the negligible costs of maintaining Nichiha Sierra Premium™ Shake boards truly turned the tide for this project.

In addition to the obvious cost savings, the panel appearance also played a part in the selection process. “Our Sierra Premium Shake boards have an amazing real shake appearance”, states John Burgess Midwest Sales Manager for Nichiha. “The Sierra shake and lap panels are a full one-half inch thick instead of the more common 5/16” panels seen in today’s market. Because our panels are so much thicker, we can manufacture grooves that are deeper and more reminiscent of real cedar shake”. Nichiha also manufactures over thirty-six fiber cement panels with a variety brick, stone and block textures and colors that compliment both residential and commercial construction needs.