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## LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS LAUNCH \$100 MILLION COMMUNITY PROJECT DESIGN BENEFITTING PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SAINT PAUL – February 22, 2019 – Shamus O’Meara, a partner with O’Meara Leer Wagner & Kohl and CEO of O&D Group, LLC, and Chris Gibbs, Principal with DLR Group, have launched a new project design providing residential, employment and life-experiences benefitting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and others within local communities.

Combining many years of design and construction expertise, Shamus and Chris promote an innovative approach to living, working and recreating together within local communities. Their project design features quality residences with meaningful employment opportunities through supported business connections and person-centered educational programs that provide life skills and experience to facilitate independent living. The design includes health and wellness and recreation components along with other amenities, and a flexible scale depending on identified needs and resources.

Current plans involve a \$100 million project with 400 residences combined with local employment, recreation, health, wellness and education services. Shamus and Chris are actively engaging local and national developers and strategic partners in several communities including Minnesota, Indiana, California and Arizona to explore various construction and operational options.

Shamus described the project’s focus:

“There are few integrated housing and employment options available for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We work with local partners and community leaders to help create life opportunities that support the personal choices of people with disabilities, providing convenient access to housing, employment, recreation and community engagement based on their personal dreams and aspirations.”

Chris added:

“Working and living together within the community is vital to everyone. DLR Group is proud to work with Shamus to help lead an important design effort that recognizes and values citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities and help create integrated opportunities to improve their life experiences within their local communities.”

For further information, please contact:



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*Shamus uses his construction, education and advocacy experience to promote greater independence and access to justice for people with developmental disabilities and their families. He is past chair of the Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities and U.S. Civil Rights Commission state advisory committee.*

*Chris creates design solutions that holistically transform and elevate outcomes and life experiences throughout the country.*



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*Community Integrated Design Concept*