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The Center for Regenerative Community Solutions

A New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Saturday, September 14, 2013 Contact: Jonathan Cloud (908-581-8418) or Victoria Zelin (908-306-0272)

Preservation Remains a Cost-Saving Option for Historic Greystone Property in Parsippany

Greystone Community Innovation — one of several development groups who submitted a proposal to the state of New Jersey to undertake the redevelopment of the old Greystone Psychiatric Hospital property — has expressed surprise that state officials are passing up an opportunity to preserve the historic Kirkbride Building in a way that saves the taxpayers' money.

"We were surprised to read in the news media that the State's Treasury Department is now thinking of paying to demolish the building, though we're glad to hear that this decision isn't set in stone. We remain interested in this project, and would be happy to address any concerns about the particulars of our proposal," said Victoria Zelin, coordinator of the Greystone Community Innovation proposal team.

"We have a team with extensive adaptive reuse experience in exactly this kind of property, and a private investor group willing to finance up to \$120 million to pay for the work. But we were never even contacted by the Treasury Department after we submitted our proposal. We are not looking for any state aid or subsidy, only for the remediation work they are already committed to doing."

The core uses in Greystone Community Innovation's initial proposal include housing, hospitality, alternative energy, and space for emerging technology businesses. "Our process works with the surrounding community to create something unique and beneficial, with an emphasis on environmentally friendly practices. We look forward to discussions with the State, and with Greystone's neighbors."

The team's initial proposal is available to the public at http://crcsolutions.org/greystone-proposal/.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Cloud at 908-581-8418 or Victoria Zelin at 908-306-0272 or vzelin@crcsolutions.org.