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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Educare Childcare & After School Program Building 75+ Person Safe Room & Media Class Room in Perkins, OK

Educare child care is using BuildBlock ICFs to build EF5 multi-purpose safe room tornado shelter for children and staff at First United Methodist Church in Perkins, OK.

(Oklahoma City, OK, June 12, 2014)

Educare child care and after school program located at the First United Methodist Church in Perkins, OK is building an EF5 FEMA compliant safe room and multi-purpose media room for their 75 students and 18 staff members using BuildBlock Insulating Concrete Forms (ICFs). The Educare Board decided build this shelter for the staff and students in response to the loss of life in the 2013 Moore Tornado and a recent tornado in Perkins. Currently children and staff must shelter in an interior hallway.

[NOTE: This project will be poured at 8AM, Friday, June 13th. Betty Weems, Educare Director will be available for interviews during and immediately after the pouring of the concrete into the ICFs. James Ladwig, General Contractor will also be available to discuss ICF construction. Brian Corder, BuildBlock Marketing Director will be able to discuss BuildBlock ICFs and other projects. Additional photos and video will be available for use after the event.

<http://buildblock.com/video-buildblock-helps-build-75-person-educare-safe-room-part-1/>

<http://buildblock.com/perkins-safe-room-part-2/>

This safe room will be built using BuildBlock Insulating Concrete Forms (ICFs) and BuildDeck Floor and Roof Decking, one of the strongest methods of disaster resistant construction available. The walls and roof of the safe room have already been stacked and reinforced with rebar and will now be filled with concrete along with a 6-inch concrete roof. ICFs are used to build homes, schools, and commercial buildings across North America and around the world. Their extreme energy efficiency performs like R-50 insulation combines with the disaster resistance of reinforced concrete to create the most cost effective and safest method of construction.

BuildBlock became involved with the project through one of its staff members, Nicole Zoellner, Director of Operations, whose children attend Educare. Zoellner's home is in Perkins and both her children attend the child care and after school programs at Educare.

Zoellner notes, "I work for an ICF company, my home is an ICF home, and there isn't a safer and more energy-efficient way to build, especially here in Oklahoma. The school has been fundraising to build a shelter for the past two years and I am glad we are able to help make a safe place for all of the kids and staff during extreme weather." -- Nicole Zoellner, Director of Operations, BuildBlock Building Systems

"We began fundraising more than two years ago through yard sales and bake sales. After the tragedy in Moore and a tornado near Perkins, local businesses became involved donating money and sponsoring a charity golf tournament. We are so excited to create not just a safe place for everyone, but a media room which we can use all year." -- Betty Weems, Educare Director

BuildBlock distributor, Ladwig Construction also joined the project donating labor and experience to assist Educare which operates as a mission for the First United Methodist Church.

"Educare is an outreach mission of the First United Methodist Church. We are treating this project as a way to pay it forward for others and help protect children. This safe room will be as strong as a bomb shelter and the sound dampening characteristics of ICFs will keep it quiet inside and keep everyone calm from the roar of the storm." -- James Ladwig, Ladwig Construction

BuildBlock Insulating concrete forms (ICFs) are hollow foam blocks which are stacked into the shape of the exterior walls of a building, reinforced with steel rebar, and then filled with concrete. Insulating concrete forms combine one of the finest insulating materials, Expanded Polystyrene (EPS), with one of the strongest structural building materials, steel reinforced concrete. The result is a wall system of unmatched comfort, energy efficiency, strength, and noise reduction. The forms stay in place providing high efficiency insulation, don't break down over time, and are fire and earthquake resistant.

"ICF homes are incredibly strong, they resist damage from fire, earthquake, and high winds such as tornados. And the walls perform like R-50 insulation. They may cost 3-5% more when building your new home, but the energy efficiency starts saving you money immediately." -- Mike Garret, BuildBlock CEO

About BuildBlock

BuildBlock® Building Systems LLC is the manufacturer of BuildBlock Insulating Concrete Forms (ICFs) the most environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient and disaster resistant methods of residential and commercial construction. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, BuildBlock serves North America through its 13 manufacturing facilities located in Colorado, Arizona, Massachusetts, Idaho, Indiana, Florida, Alabama, California, Minnesota, Missouri, and Canada.

About Ladwig Construction

Ladwig Construction is a full service general contractor specializing in steel and concrete construction, Insulating Concrete forms (ICFs) and custom home design. Based in Hennessey, Oklahoma, Ladwig Construction has completed more than 100 ICF projects around Oklahoma and surrounding states over the past 15 years. For more information contact James Ladwig, Ladwig Construction, 11207 E 600 Rd, Hennessey, Oklahoma 73742, 405-853-1563 or 405-314-5802, jladwigconstruction@gmail.com

About Educare

FUMC Educare Program is a child care center located at the First United Methodist Church in Perkins, OK. They accept children 12-months and older for a variety of programs. They currently have capacity for 75 children and have 18 staff. For more information contact Betty Weems, Director, Perkins Educare, 1005 E Kirk Ave Perkins, OK 74059, (405) 547-8306

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