





## FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

**August 24th, 2015** 

## OKC ENERGY FC TO BREAK GROUND WITH OKC-COUNTY HEALTH TO BUILD TRAINING FACILITY

**OKLAHOMA CITY** – The OKC County Health Department Board of Directors along with OKC Energy FC and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma will break ground in a big way on Wednesday, August 26th at 10 a.m. as construction continues on a multi-field training facility on the grounds of the Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus at 2600 NE 63rd in Oklahoma City.

"Soccer is a great sport to expand the health and wellness of its participants. Energy FC is delighted with our partnership with the OKC County Health Department's in their mission to improve the wellness of our community. The Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus is a perfect fit for the continued growth of our soccer club." said Energy FC General Manager Jason Hawkins.

The foundation of this initiative is an earlier grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma to support construction of the sports fields as a part of BCBSOK's Healthy Kids Healthy Families program

"The Health and Wellness Campus is a true healthy option for children and families to enjoy," said Ted Haynes,
President, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma. "We proudly support this project and we look forward to seeing the
continued development of the sports fields with Energy FC."

"This opportunity with the Energy FC will serve as a way to leverage our standing partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma and the Healthy Kids Healthy Families grant. Health and wellness should be a family affair, and that starts with providing both the resources and the avenue for families to be active together, this partnership will achieve just that," remarked OKC County Health Department Executive Director, Gary Cox, J.D.

Construction on the state-of-the art fields should be completed by late fall. The ground will serve as Energy FC's home base for training as well as location for soccer camps, neighborhood resident recreation functions with Energy FC stakeholders and with the citizens of Oklahoma City. Included as part of the partnership Energy FC will work closely with OKC County Health Department and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma to provide soccer clinics and physical activities to benefit area youth.

The OKC County Health Department's Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus is aimed at improving the health and lifestyles for the citizens of Oklahoma City and County through the provision of much needed resources. Complete with walking trails, a customized demonstration kitchen, wellness classes and a community playground, the Northeast Regional Health and Wellness Campus is a key component in the continued improvement of the health of the citizens of Oklahoma City and County. Many of these amenities are made possible to the community through the generosity of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma.

The OKC Energy FC is in the midst of their second season of play in USL PRO at the newly renovated Taft Stadium in the heart of Oklahoma City.

USL PRO is the strongest U.S. men's professional soccer league on and off the field below and in support of Major League Soccer (MLS). Focused on league stability and franchise performance longevity, USL PRO has expanded for the 2015 season to feature teams in Austin, Charlotte, Colorado Springs, Louisville, Montreal, Portland, Salt Lake City, Seattle, St. Louis, Toronto, Tulsa and Vancouver.

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