



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CONTACT:

Meredith Marsh  
Communications Manager, PHIUS  
312.561.4588  
[meredith@passivehouse.us](mailto:meredith@passivehouse.us)

## PHIUS Launches Multifamily Resource Center Website to Support Developers Pursuing Passive Building Certification

Website at [multifamily.phius.org](http://multifamily.phius.org) to serve as resource for developers, policymakers, and investors in the design, financing, and execution of PHIUS+ certified projects

**Chicago – June 13, 2016** – Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) is excited to announce the release of the **PHIUS Multifamily Resource Center**, an online repository of information, tools, case studies, and best practices to support multifamily developers in the design, financing, and execution of PHIUS+ certified projects.

The release of the climate-specific, cost-optimized [PHIUS+ 2015 Passive Building Standard](#) in March of 2015 by Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) ignited the tremendous growth of passive building from coast to coast, with the most significant gains occurring in the multifamily housing sector. PHIUS+ Certified and Pre-Certified projects now total **more than 1 million square feet across 1,200 units** nationwide.

The **PHIUS+ 2015 Passive Building Standard** released by Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) in March of 2015 is the only passive building standard on the market based upon climate-specific comfort and performance criteria, and the only passive building standard that requires onsite QA/QC for certification. Developed in cooperation with Building Science Corporation under a US Department of Energy grant, the PHIUS+ 2015 Standard makes passive building affordable by targeting the sweet spot between investment and payback to present a cost-effective solution to achieving the most comfortable and efficient building possible for a given climate and location, while also offering the best path for achieving zero energy and carbon. The resulting building performs 60-85% better (depending on climate zone and building type) on an energy consumption basis when compared to a code compliant building (International Energy Conservation Code IECC 2009), due to heating and cooling load reductions of 86% and 46% respectively on average over all climates and an overall site EUI of 10-20 kBtu/ft<sup>2</sup> per year.

Developers pursuing certification under the PHIUS+ 2015 Standard report a **cost premium for passive building methods at approximately 0-3% over a standard Energy Star construction baseline**. In fact some developers even report a negative cost premium for passive building since the high-performance enclosure allows for the reduction in mechanical system size and equipment, thereby reducing both first costs and operational expenses for the life of the building.

Katrin Klingenberg, Executive Director of PHIUS, is thrilled about the release of the new multifamily website for developers. “We have finally reached the tipping point with the PHIUS+ 2015 Standard so that building to passive building standards can be more cost-effective than business as usual construction practices. The PHIUS Multifamily Resource Center will help to make even more of these projects a reality.”

The development of the PHIUS Multifamily Resource Center was made possible through a generous grant from the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#).

Please visit [multifamily.phius.org](http://multifamily.phius.org) to learn more and to explore this new resource.

## **About PHIUS**

PHIUS is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to making high-performance passive building the mainstream market standard. PHIUS is transforming the building sector by developing and promoting North American specific standards, practices, and certifications for buildings, professionals, and products to create structures that are durable, comfortable, healthy, and super energy efficient.

Founded in 2003, PHIUS has trained over 2,000 architects, engineers, energy consultants, energy raters, and builders in the passive building standard. The organization is the leading passive building research and information provider in North America. PHIUS released the PHIUS+ 2015 climate-specific building standard, developed under a DOE grant in partnership with Building Science Corporation, in March of 2015. In addition to the DOE, PHIUS has also established strategic relationships with key organizations including RESNET and the Home Innovation Research Labs, among others. The organization has received funding from the Richard King Mellon Foundation and, more recently, the John D. and Katherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Through its [Passive House Alliance US \(PHAUS\)](#) program, a membership-based organization with over 800 members across 18 local chapters and dozens of corporate sponsors, PHIUS is building a robust national network of passive building communities across North America.

Learn more at [www.phius.org](http://www.phius.org).