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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 2015

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## EVENT ADVISORY: Cal Poly's Annual PolyHouse Makes Extensive Renovations and Adds Solar for Family in Need

EVENT: Cal Poly PolyHouse Renovation

WHEN: Unveiling to the family 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 31

WHERE: Atascadero

*Note to the press: For the address of the project unveiling, contact Professor Roya Javadpour, director of the PolyHouse program, at 310-869-5628.*

**MORE INFORMATION:** Each spring, Cal Poly's industrial and manufacturing engineering project management class completes a home renovation service project to help a local family or individual struggling with issues related to disabilities.

This year, the PolyHouse team has transformed the Atascadero home of a 21-year-old girl with Rett Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder. A healthy child until the age of two, the client is now affected in all aspects of life. Her mother and younger brother assist her with her daily living needs, including feeding, bathing, dressing, and transferring. Because her bedroom is on the second floor, her mother carries her up and down the stairs several times a day.

The 18-member PolyHouse team installed a stair lift; made the bathroom, doorways and backyard wheelchair accessible; and installed hardwood floors. In addition, SunRun has donated solar panels that will provide all of the family's electric power needs.

Having relocated for the duration of the renovations, the family will first see the changes in their home at the unveiling May 31.

The engineering graduate students who participated in the dramatic makeover represent a wide variety of undergraduate majors and include two exchange students from Germany. The students organized into nine teams focused on specific aspects of the construction, with every student participating in two teams. Overall project managers included engineering graduate students Kyle Feist and Tyson Mobley. The class spent six weeks planning the project, with actual construction spanning two weekends.

Community support has been one of the hallmarks of the project. An estimated \$100,000 was donated in the form of cash, building materials and related assistance.

For a complete list of local donors, and to read more about PolyHouse, visit <http://www.polyhouse.org/index.html>.

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