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Elevations: The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital

By: Molly M. Fleming The Journal Record June 25, 2015 0



The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital plans to add a building, left, and renovate an existing structure, at right. (Courtesy rendering)

BETHANY – The Children's Center Rehabilitation Hospital stays 90- to 95-percent full, but it wants to do more to help children who were born with complex medical conditions or have suffered traumatic injuries. It plans to add a 96,448-square-foot, four-story building addition to its campus, 6800 NW 39th Expressway, as well as renovate an existing building into a daily living center.

The new building and renovation were designed by architect Pam Deatherage with Tulsa-based

Kinslow, Keith & Todd Inc.

Each floor will measure 23,744 square feet. There will be a corridor that connects the new structure to the main building. The exterior will have brick walls with a metal-panel section. There will be a curved, glass curtain wall at the front, making the entrance more prominent.

The first floor will feature a conference center with one small meeting room, two medium-size spaces, and a larger room that can be broken into three areas. The spaces will be used for training sessions with on-campus staff or for conferences hosted by the hospital. The conference center will have an attached catering kitchen and a formula prep room, where meals can be made for patients who need them. The first floor will also have an evaluation room with X-ray and treatment spaces.

On the second floor will be a clinic with 24 exam rooms and a physical therapy department with nine treatment rooms and two gyms, filled with equipment.

The third and fourth floors will be for patients and their families. Each floor will have 20 private rooms and the entryways are different colors. Twelve rooms will be for rehabilitation patients and eight rooms are for those seeking complex care. The complex-care rooms are smaller and do not have individual bathrooms. There will be one nurse in charge of two rooms. In total, the building will have 40 patient beds. In the future, the second floor can be converted to individual rooms.

The third and fourth floors will have a gathering space near the nurse's stations where families can meet for birthdays or other special events. The areas will be encapsulated by walls with glass windows on top, allowing the area to appear open while still offering privacy.

The interior will feature porcelain tile floors, painted walls, vinyl-wood-look flooring in patient rooms, and vinyl flooring with a leaf pattern on the third and fourth floors. There will be quartz and solid surface countertops.

Deatherage said the wall colors were inspired by The Children's Center's new logo, but the bright finishes will be used sparingly because the hospital plans to work with a company to place artwork in the space.

"We didn't want to be too overbearing with the color and pattern," she said. "We tried to have enough blank walls so they could have whatever art they wanted."

Deatherage said the interior design had to be durable to stand up to bumps from wheelchairs, carts, or patient beds. She said the flooring materials were chosen because they could withstand the weight of a cart without being scratched. The material on the walls' lower halves won't be easily scratched, either, she said. The corners will be made without sharp edges to prevent injuries.

"It's going to be a delightful space for children and the parents that come to visit them every day," Deatherage said.

The other new addition to the campus – rather, renovation addition – will be the Activities for Daily Living building. The building will be designed like a streetscape where patients can practice walking up and down curbs or walking in and out of stores.

To make the building a reality, The Children's Center launched a capital campaign in November. The goal is to raise \$30 million, with more than \$12 million being raised to date. Communications and Marketing Director Melissa Richey said the hospital expects to be at the halfway point by September.

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