

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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Stephen Rankin Associates has designed the new Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, a 175,000 square foot, 120 bed replacement facility in Wheaton, Illinois. Alta Engineering of Elk Grove Village, Illinois was the project structural engineer and EME, LLC of Chicago was the project MEPFP engineer. The project has been constructed by Gilbane Building Company of Chicago, Illinois. Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital was selected by Midwest Construction Magazine for its highest award as the best healthcare project of 2006 with the award being presented today.

The new three-story hospital is located on a site of approximately four acres within the existing 65 acre campus of the Wheaton Franciscan Sisters. According to the wishes of the Franciscan Sisters, the new building was designed to occupy only the land where surface parking lots were previously found. The new building features post-tensioned concrete structural framing and face brick that accentuates the architecture of the existing buildings on campus.

The new facility is primarily an inpatient facility for patients requiring physical rehabilitation. It is the only free-standing rehabilitation hospital in the United States that features all private rooms. The new building has a partial basement and an enclosed mechanical penthouse. The new hospital is connected to the existing facility with basement-level, all-weather connector corridors that form a circular courtyard. The circular courtyard provides a great deal of daylight to the basement level and acts as a central focal point for the project and a critical element in way-finding. The circular courtyard contains a meditative labyrinth developed by Marianjoy and fashioned after the labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral in France. The functional in-patient entrance, out-patient entrance and vehicular drop-offs are located directly above the circular connector corridors.

The new hospital features fully accessible patient rooms, isolation rooms, bariatric patient rooms, toilet rooms, and patient showers. Public areas have been developed including an outdoor enabling garden with wheelchair accessible planting beds, therapy gyms for physical therapy and occupational therapy and a residential apartment for training patients in life-skills that they might need in their home residence. The project also includes a new boardroom, new kitchen, new cafeteria and a new chapel with liturgical furniture made from several oak trees that harvested from the campus.

The project features a four level precast concrete parking structure for 517 cars which is fully accessible to persons with disabilities. The parking deck is attached to the existing hospital building and matches the existing floor heights.

The new hospital building opened for use in October 2006.