

tidings!

September, 2006

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 4-6, 2006

CHA-USA: Leadership Formation
Chase Park Plaza Hotel
St. Louis, MO
FFI: 314/253-3525

October 12, 2006

CHA-USA Ethics
Audioconference
Disparity in End-of-Life Care
FFI: 314/253-3507

November 29-30, 2006

Preparing for the Next Disaster:
A Hospital Leadership Forum
Omni Royal Orleans Hotel
New Orleans, MN
FFI: www.vavhf.org

December 11, 2006

CHA-MN Board Meeting
CHI, Minneapolis
FFI: 651/503-2163

St. Joseph's Hospital, St. Paul, Groundbreaking in Progress

Minnesota's first hospital and a leader of cutting edge health care in the Twin Cities was proud to host a neighborhood groundbreaking picnic on August 1, 2006 to kickoff "National Night Out". The new and expanded St. Joseph's Hospital will house some of the most sophisticated technology available. Combined with the expertise of their caring medical staff, the goal is to create a hospital where the level of care matches the expectations of the community.

Following a live webcast of a brain surgery (featuring state-of-the-art aneurysm treatment techniques) conducted by HealthEast Neurovascular Institute specialists - a complimentary picnic and entertainment was provided to the approximate 500 in attendance at

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KEY FEATURES OF THE NEW HOSPITAL

- Centralized Heart Care and Neuroscience Centers
- Outpatient Surgery and Imaging Center
- Four new operating rooms with integrated technology, customized to each specialty area
- New main entrance, chapel and lobby
- Conference/Education Center equipped with multi-media technology
- Forward-thinking, healing design
- Enhanced patient and family comfort
- 100% private patient rooms

COMPLEMENTING THE NEW FACILITY

- Expand and renovate the emergency department
- Add two new operating rooms for minimally-invasive procedures
- Build an adjacent parking ramp
- Make other internal improvements



Community leaders gather for St. Joseph's Hospital groundbreaking including Interim CEO Ann Schrader, Mayor Chris Coleman, Sr. Marie de Paul Rochester, Phyllis Novitskie, and Bishop Richard Pates.



Toby Pearson,
CHA-MN Executive
Director

AS I SEE IT

Making Universal Healthcare a Priority

"The latest Census Bureau estimate that 46.6 million people are uninsured in the U.S. is an outrage that demands immediate and focused attention," recently said by Sr. Carol Keehan, the leader of the Catholic Health Association of the United States.

Other findings from the Census Bureau include the proportion and number of uninsured children increased between 2004 and 2005, from 10.8 percent to 11.2 percent and from 7.9 million to 8.3 million, respectively - and between 2004 and 2005, people covered by employment-based health insurance (174.8 million) declined from 59.8 percent to 59.5 percent.

In Minnesota, we have a history of being a state with a low percentage of uninsured. With our programs such as MNCare, we do a pretty good job of attempting to cover everyone. Still, healthcare remains a priority of the legislators and univer-

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sal healthcare needs to remain in the conversation. This con-

versation needs to take place all year - not simply during the nationally recognized Cover the Uninsured Week - next scheduled for April 23-29, 2007.

The Catholic community has consistently worked for access to affordable health care for all, reflecting these principles: Respect for Life; Priority Concern for the Poor; Universal Access; Comprehensive Benefits; Pluralism; Quality; Cost Control; and Equitable Financing. Infusing these principles into the healthcare conversation is one of our goals at CHA-MN.

As Sr. Carol Points out, "This is a country with a tremendous imagination, a generous spirit, and a history of finding the will power and the money when something is made a priority."

In Catholic healthcare, we have a tremendous imagination, generous spirit, and history of making healthcare a priority. I recently toured the Catholic healthcare facilities in Breckenridge, Minnesota. I was especially impressed with the manner in which the facility held onto the past, by incorporating the stained glass and other features from previous locations, and tied them in with the state of the art features that demonstrate the future of healthcare.

This combination of respect for the past, with a clarity of vision for the future - of what healthcare can, and should look like - is a critical perspective that CHA-MN brings to the table of the healthcare policy discussion.

ST. JOSEPH'S cont. from page 1

the groundbreaking ceremony. Special guests included St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman (who was actually born at St. Joseph's Hospital), and Auxiliary Bishop Richard Pates from the Archdiocese of St. Paul, Minneapolis.

The cornerstone of their plan is a new five-story hospital building on the current campus. The forward thinking

design combines the best qualities of a critical care hospital with those of smaller community hospitals. Patients with similar problems will be grouped on the same floor near services they need. This design will enable staff to deliver care more efficiently and effectively.

Spanning the intersection of Tenth and St. Peter Streets in downtown St. Paul, the new facility will take their current high-quality care to the next level.

St. Francis Healthcare, Breckenridge, Groundbreaking Completed

In August, CHA-MN Executive Director Toby Pearson had the opportunity to personally visit the St. Francis Healthcare Campus in Breckenridge.

BACKGROUND

St. Francis is a faith based health care ministry serving the head of the Red River basin, located in Breckenridge Minnesota, founded by the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls in 1899. The campus sets in an aesthetic environment of trees and flowing rivers. Catholic Health Initiatives, Denver, CO today sponsors the ministry. St. Francis is an organization that provides a full continuum of health care services. They promote health, healing and community through works of care and compassion; "To heal as Jesus healed". They are committed to a holistic healing ministry and a quality management philosophy using the St. Francis Core Values for its foundation - Reverence, Integrity, Compassion

and Excellence.

MISSION

The Mission of St. Francis and Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church by bringing it new life, energy and viability in the 21st century. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we move toward the creation of healthier communities.

NEW FACILITY

Two years and one month after the groundbreaking ceremony, St. Francis Healthcare Campus welcomed the public in on June 19, 2005. St. Francis has been a staple in Breckenridge for 107 years and this new state-of-the-art facility has now moved them forward into the future as the region's top provider of rural healthcare services.

Upon entering the new facility through one main entrance, visitors and patients are greeted with a warm and inviting environment with access to services off two main corridors. The present diagnostic and acute care services and programs were relocated to the new campus where organizational efficiencies were greatly enhanced. The long-term care services have the charm of a small city square, complete with a tailor, beauty and coffee shops, gym, courtyards, conference rooms and chapel. The long term care model is designed to create a better healing environment and residential living in the form of neighborhoods, which are connected by lanes named with the regional appeal of historic railroad lines, nearby rivers and the prairie. The 120 bed long term cares and 25 acute care services are contained within the approximately 150,000 square foot building on a 30-acre site.

CHA-MN congratulates St. Francis on their new facilities and commends them for their continued commitment to rural healthcare services.



Residents at the St. Francis long-term care facility

MISSION:

BELIEVING IN THE WORTH AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON MADE IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD, THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION-MINNESOTA ASSISTS ITS MEMBERS TO FULFILL THE HEALING MISSION OF THE CHURCH.



Catholic Health Association of Minnesota
P.O. Box 65217
St. Paul, MN 55165

St. Joseph's Area Health Services, Park Rapids, Groundbreaking in the Future

"When we think about our vision for St. Joseph's, we think about having medical services be a stimulus for growth and for making this a livable community for those around us who live here and those thinking about moving here," says Peter Jacobson, St. Joseph's President/CEO. "We recognize that this is a growing area and we want to grow along with our growing community. Having a new and renovated facility is a critical component of being able to successfully deliver on this vision."

That's why a \$25.8 million new building and renovation project is currently underway. As a result of a cooperative spirit between St. Joseph's and Dakota Clinic, a unified health-care delivery system for patients and their families will be established and position St. Joseph's to become a leader in medical services throughout North Central Minnesota for years to come.

"When hospitals and clinics work together patients receive better care," says Jacobson, the community has a larger pool of healthcare services from which to draw on, less fragmentation, few duplicated services and a more efficient medical system."

In essence, St. Joseph's and Dakota will remain their own entities but exist as one campus, under one roof. One entrance and reception area will welcome patients - with no more stairs to navigate. The current Dakota Clinic building will be removed to accommodate adequate parking. Construction will be conducted in phases starting next spring. The final phase should be completed in 2009.

Current facilities in Park Rapids, soon to experience change.

ST. JOSEPH'S BUILDING PLANS

- New emergency room will double in size and include an enclosed ambulance entrance
- New outpatient ambulatory care space will be built to accommodate growing outpatient services
- A medical office building (50-60,000 sq. ft.) will be integrated into the hospital allowing improved patient services and conveniences, and greatly improving the practice environment for physicians
- Expanded surgical services
- Expanded imaging department to include MRI services
- Large and improved waiting areas for patients and families
- New gift shop
- New hospital and clinic lobby plus registration area
- New intensive care unit
- Completely renovate patient rooms including new bathroom facilities, with an increased number of private rooms
- New main entrance which will allow for improved patient/visitor access
- Replace central plant (heating and cooling)

