

Mercy Medical Center and Ryan expanding the “Mercy Touch”



Mercy Medical Center, Waiting Room
Architect: HGA

Established in 1900, Mercy Medical Center carried out the vow of its founders — the Sisters of Mercy — “to care for the poor and the sick” of the Cedar Rapids community. Mercy Medical Center has grown with Cedar Rapids, and remains focused on the “Mercy Touch”: Mercy’s reputation for the combined excellence of its staff, facilities and compassionate care.

Mercy Medical has evolved with the growing community as well as in medical and technological advancements. In the process, Mercy has relied on its partnerships with Ryan to accommodate that growth. In

order to maintain their extraordinary quality of care, Mercy and Ryan continually update the “Mercy Touch.”

The partnership began in 1996 with the construction of Mercy Care Clinics. Over a six-year period, Ryan, with OPN Architects, Inc., built six satellite family health clinics to bring the Mercy Touch into Iowa’s neighborhoods.

The Marion Mercy Care Clinic was the first of these centers, housing four independent practices in an innovative configuration, allowing eight physicians to share a single business office. The clinic offers features rarely found in satellite clinics: an X-ray room, laboratory and pharmacy.

With rave reviews for the Marion satellite clinic, Mercy looked to Ryan for their next project. In 1998, Mercy Medical required a strategic plan for the hospital’s enhancement. The renovations focused on cardiology, surgical services and obstetrics, while also converting the ninth floor of its 30-year-old double-bed tower into an

updated single-room unit and a full-service women’s center. The team also completed a \$6 million parking ramp.

Critical above all, Ryan’s conscientious planning and execution allowed Mercy Medical to continue delivering its award-winning care throughout construction, receiving a 100%-clean OSHA inspection during construction, an exceptional accomplishment for a project of its magnitude.

In December 2003, Ryan and Mercy teamed-up again to create the Mercy Health Plaza. Together, the team converted a warehouse into a state-of-the-art outpatient services and rehabilitation center. Over a period of 23 weeks, the Ryan team took a

challenging industrial space and transformed it into an exceptional 48,000-square-foot medical

facility, including a ten-office family counseling suite, an outpatient and occupational rehabilitation area, cardiopulmonary rehabilitation suite, a dialysis unit, medical clinic and a full-service fitness center.

Bob Olberding, Director of Plant Operations & Maintenance, attributes the partnership’s continuous success to teamwork, attention to detail and great communication. “Clayton Cabbage [Ryan Project Manager] is the coach” he explained, “and Jeff Christensen and Kent Kilpatrick [Ryan Superintendents] are the quarterbacks consistently leading the project team to the completion of successful projects.”

Ryan and Mercy continue their partnership in 2005, updating three of the seven floors in Mercy’s bed tower, with the goal of completing all seven floors. In the coming years, Mercy Medical Center and Ryan will maintain their partnership, continuing to extend and enhance the “Mercy Touch.”



Mercy Care Clinic, Cedar Rapids, IA
Architect: OPN Architects



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