

emergency

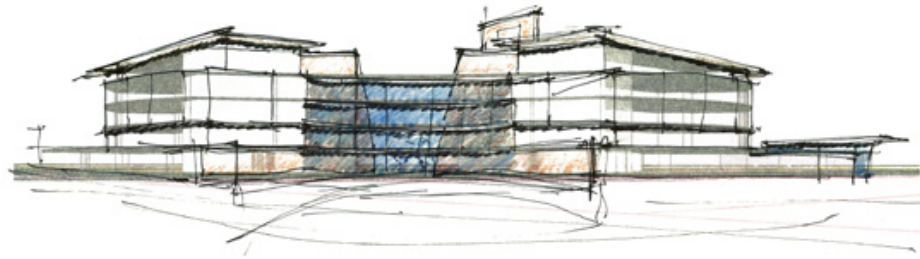
by **Flad Architects**

“Time becomes a critical factor and what this new Satellite Emergency Center will offer is the ability to minimize the response time. The proximity of the facility and its accessible location will eliminate wasted travel time for a patient with a medical trauma.” — Sun Prairie Mayor Joe Chase

Immediately northeast of Madison, Wisconsin, lies the rapidly expanding suburb of Sun Prairie. Its location makes it an attractive community to many, benefiting from the offerings of the close-by capital city while still enjoying a more rural setting. And it was a combination of this removed location and quick growth that triggered an immediate need for local emergency services.

The urgency this community was experiencing inspired St. Mary's Hospital to build Wisconsin's first freestanding satellite emergency center. This 13,500-square-foot facility is the first phase and cornerstone for the new SSM Health Care of Wisconsin (SSMHC) campus in Sun Prairie.





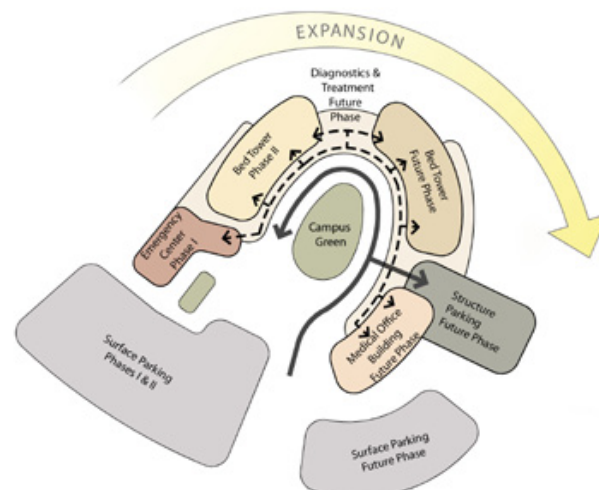
Opportunity for Growth

When considering avenues for expansion, healthcare organizations rarely have the chance to acquire a greenfield site and build a campus from the ground up; however, the City of Sun Prairie benefited from just this kind of opportunity. When the city government and local officials proposed an initiative to expand the healthcare services offered in the area, SSMHC started planning to develop a satellite campus 11 miles away from their main campus, St. Mary's Hospital, in Madison.

Flad Architects was commissioned to develop a master site and facility plan for SSMHC for an integrated campus on the 17-acre site. The plan included a solution to the immediate need for emergency care, incorporated into a larger plan for a future hospital campus.

Before the center opened, residents of Sun Prairie and its surrounding communities had few options when a medical emergency arose.

Without any 24/7 emergency medical care in the area, residents drove 25 minutes into Madison to seek emergency care — a lifetime when an emergency is occurring. The facility's proximity eliminates wasted travel time when it counts the most.



Campus Planning Objectives

- Determine optimal location for the Satellite Emergency Center on the site.
- Plan for future building locations, adjacencies, and roadways that support full site build-out over future years.
- Provide maximum return on real-estate investment.
- Focus on commitment to providing exceptional patient, family, and staff comfort and convenience.
- Create a distinctive design identity for the site that also incorporates the character and mission of SSMHC and St. Mary's.



Highly Visible and Accessible

Because the Satellite Emergency Center would be the first structure on the site, St. Mary's requested a building that would be highly visible, allowing patients to locate the facility quickly and understand how to access the front door. Flad responded by placing the building at the most prominent location on the campus, easily visible from U.S. Highway 151, a main thoroughfare into Madison.

The building's atrium, complete with a high-volume ceiling, was designed to stand out on the site. Clearly marked roadways direct patients to the facility and separate ambulance traffic from patient traffic — all highly important when planning a healthcare facility to reduce stress and anxiety for patients and families who come there for care.





A Welcoming Environment

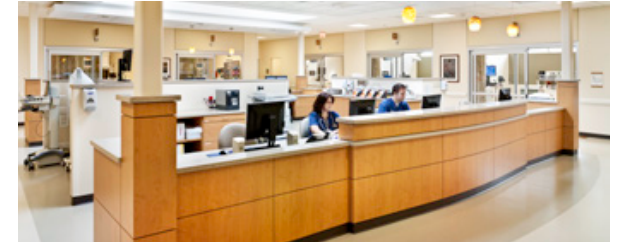
St. Mary's Hospital, the largest SSMHC hospital in the state, has been serving south central Wisconsin with a wide variety of health and wellness services since 1912. The goal for the interior of the Satellite Emergency Center was to create an environment of warmth and comfort.

The new center is open 24-hours a day, seven days a week and houses 13 treatment rooms — including a fire truck-themed room for pediatric patients.

Interior design elements include wood detailing, abundant light, natural stone, warm finishes, and translucent glass — creating a space that is welcoming and open. The building exterior is accented with indigenous stone, a vaulted entrance, and double-height space with glass, allowing natural light to penetrate to the interior.

An easily identified entrance expedites drop-off and pick-up of patients and offers valet parking as well. Reinforcing visibility and prominence, the vaulted entrance is illuminated at night and almost becomes a lantern to approaching vehicles.





Additional Amenities

Because of its freestanding nature, the facility is outfitted with amenities a traditional emergency department may rely upon an adjoining hospital to provide. It is equipped with a CT scanner, Glidescope (allowing physicians to intubate patients with a direct view of their vocal cords), a full service lab, and additional medical imaging equipment. The design also includes a drive-through ambulance bay and a helipad to transport critical patients to Madison hospitals.

Designed for No-Wait Model

Operationally, the center was designed for a no-wait model where a patient arrives and is quickly escorted to an exam room, after clinical staff make a quick assessment of illness and acuity. Registration, insurance, and billing questions are handled in the room simultaneously with the initial physician assessment.

A racetrack design, which features a central workstation surrounded by treatment rooms, accommodates the no-wait model with a rapid triage room and a universal 13-bed design that can quickly expand to more than 15 rooms as needed. The open design concept allows for clear lines of visibility from the central station to the patient exam rooms. This is important to nurses and physicians who must observe and treat patients, often under extreme conditions.

Positioned for Future Expansion

The Satellite Emergency Center was designed to be a stand-alone facility for several years and constructed as hospital-grade in anticipation of future expansion and for eventual connection to a 50-bed hospital.



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