



Norwood Hospital

A CARITAS FAMILY HOSPITAL

News Release

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Norwood Hospital Begins Construction on Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories

\$6 million project is among seven Caritas Christi initiatives totaling \$100 million that will bring state-of-the-art, high-quality services to eastern Massachusetts

(Norwood, MA) Norwood Hospital today broke ground on a \$6 million dollar project to build two new cardiac catheterization labs to be located adjacent to the hospital's Draper Lobby and in close proximity to its Emergency Department.

"Norwood Hospital has had a longstanding commitment to offering advanced cardiac care in the community," said Margaret Hanson, president. Our interventional cardiac services have been a great success, and with these new labs, we're excited to bring a new level of cardiac care to our communities."

The 7,675 square foot facility, scheduled for completion by early 2011, is one of seven Caritas Christi infrastructure improvement projects to break ground. The projects, spread among the six Caritas Christi hospitals, total more than 117,000 square feet and represent a capital investment of more than \$100 million. A significant capital commitment by Cerberus Capital Management enabled Caritas Christi to begin construction and provides the funding to complete the projects in a timely manner. The projects include three new emergency departments and two new surgical centers; also new technology and facilities such as CT and other diagnostic imaging, endoscopy, surgical robots, and cancer care.

Caritas Christi's infrastructure projects are creating new jobs in areas that have some of the highest unemployment in the Commonwealth. With hospitals in Fall River, Brockton, Dorchester, Norwood, Boston, and Methuen, Caritas Christi's building projects are creating more than 4,300 potential new jobs, including 110 design, engineering and consulting jobs, 500 construction jobs, 500 new jobs from hospital projects, and more than 3,700 related stimulus jobs.

Norwood Hospital's cardiac catheterization labs will be used for emergency coronary artery angioplasty and stenting, which the hospital has offered since 1999. Additionally, the hospital will continue to perform elective angioplasty, which it has offered since 2006 as part of the Department of Public Health Trial. The labs will also be used for other procedures such as diagnostic catheterizations, peripheral angioplasties and implantation of pacemakers and defibrillators.

Angioplasty and stenting are the most common treatments to unblock coronary arteries. A catheter with a tiny balloon and flexible stent is inserted in a blood vessel in the groin and threaded through the body to the blocked artery in the heart. The balloon is inflated, clearing the blockage, and the stent is left behind when the catheter and balloon are removed to help keep the artery open.

The new construction project will enable two catheterizations to be performed at the same time. This means that if two residents of the hospital's 16-town service area require angioplasty at the same time, both patients can receive their care close to home rather than traveling into Boston. During the construction phase, the existing lab will provide continued availability for angioplasty and other procedures.

"We are thrilled to continue performing life-saving cardiac procedures 24/7, with the added benefit of a brand new, state-of-the-art facility," said Paul Schwerdt, MD, chief of interventional cardiology and director of the Frank R. and Elizabeth Simoni Family Foundation Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

The project manager for the catheterization laboratories is Murphy McManus. The architect is Steffian Bradley Architects, and the general contractor is Suffolk Construction.

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The 264-bed Norwood Hospital, provides emergency, cardiology, advanced surgical, endoscopic, psychiatric, OB/GYN and Children's Hospital Boston pediatric services and is a member of Caritas Christi Health Care, which is the second largest health care system in New England. Information about Norwood Hospital's programs and services is available at www.Norwood-Hospital.org.

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