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Design Issue

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DESIGN SHOWCASE

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Red River Hospital WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

Johnson Johnson Crabtree Architects, PC (JJCA) NASHVILLE, TENN.



Red River, an Acadia-owned behavioral health-care hospital in Wichita Falls, Texas, simply couldn't accommodate the community's growing need for services in its existing facility. Red River provides a full array of behavioral health and substance abuse services to patients of all ages and also caters to a very special clientele with its Military Heroes Unit. Programmatic elements including a gym and outpatient spaces would be critical to providing the desired quality and scope of services to the community, including its military population.

Once it was confirmed that a renovation/expansion of the existing facility wasn't a feasible solution, a site adjacent to the hospital became the best option. But the site was not without challenges. Its small footprint and relatively steep grade required a creative design solution to house a parking garage, administrative space, outpatient therapy area, inpatient treatment space, and a recreational gym. The result is an interesting three-story, nearly 32,000 square-foot, L-shaped building with massing that is playful, functional and visually appealing. The strategically located third story gym and fitness space addresses physical therapy, exercise and yoga needs, particularly for patients in the Military Heroes Unit who no longer have to travel across town to access a gym.



Project Category: New construction
Chief Administrator: Jack Warburton, CEO
Firm: Johnson Johnson Crabtree Architects, PC (JJCA), (615) 837-0656
Design Team: Owner (Acadia Healthcare, Inc.), Architect (Johnson Johnson Crabtree Architects, PC); Program Manager (The NoliWhite Group); MPE Engineers (Envision Advantage, LLC); Civil Engineer (Ingram Civil Engineering Group, LLC); Structural Engineer (EMC Structural Engineers, PC); Interior Design (Inner Design Studio); General Contractor (Lott Brothers Construction Company)
Photography: ©2016 Ken West Photography
Total Area (Sq. Ft.): 32,000
Total Construction Cost (excluding land): \$10,252,000
Construction Cost/Sq. Ft.: \$320
Completion: March 2016

Inpatient and outpatient clients are able to access the outdoors in a safe, contained environment. Terraced exterior areas make effective use of the steep grade, providing intimate spaces on each level. Both natural and borrowed light are abundant. Most hallways and corridors have direct outside views, generating a natural “guiding light” to support wayfinding. A rhythm of glazing enhances the exterior elevation and provides zones throughout the building where natural light flows into interior spaces such as the administrative area, group rooms and inpatient spaces. A mix of brick, metal panels, glazing, and top-floor clerestory windows work together to create a welcoming exterior.

Patient and staff safety is at the heart of the design. A centralized nurse station “hub” backs up to a charting area, resulting in efficient on/off work areas and visual control of both corridors. Additionally, this project provided an opportunity to incorporate newly developed safety standards designed to maximize safety within a healing environment. Collaboratively developed by JJCA and Acadia, these new standards will be used nationwide in Acadia facilities and include layouts for patient rooms, toilet/shower rooms, seclusion room, activity room and overall security provisions.

