Project BRIGHT Update:

Staff Gets Sneak Preview of Future Patient Care Areas

At the beginning of the tour, staff will be provided with an information sheet to help guide them through each room. Key features in the rooms will be labeled with numbers that will each coincide with the information sheet. At the conclusion of the tour, employees will be asked to provide feedback by filling out a comment card. Volunteer hosts will be on hand to direct staff.

While staff will have the opportunity to tour the mock rooms in March, additional tours will be scheduled for the public in April. The following dates and times are available for employees to tour the mock rooms. Employees should allow 15-30 minutes to tour and do not need to sign up beforehand.

Mock Room Tours Offered to FMC Team

Beginning in March, staff will have the opportunity to take a self-guided tour of the four mock rooms that are being constructed in the back of the TWIG 17 Books and More bookstore, 1151 E. Main St., in the Kroger shopping plaza. Two of the four rooms – a patient room and a pre-op room (post anesthesia care unit) – will be 100 percent complete, offering a glimpse at everything from furniture to equipment to sinks and showerheads. Employees also will have an opportunity to walk down a mock patient floor corridor during the tour.

Mock Room Tour Times

Clinical staff – March 10, 14, 17, 21, 24 and 28. On the 17 and 21, employees can tour the rooms from 6:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. On March 10, 14, 24 and 28, employees can tour the rooms from 7-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Non-clinical staff – March 10, 14, 17, 21, 24 and 28. Employees can tour the rooms these days from 7-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m.

Please allow 15-30 minutes to tour.
1915 Blueprints Give A Glimpse Into Fairfield Medical Center’s Past

It was December 1914 when a $6,500 expenditure to acquire a 10-acre site on North Ewing Street for the construction of Lancaster Municipal Hospital was approved by the City of Lancaster. One hundred years later, the original blueprints for that building remain stored in Plant Engineering’s blueprint file room, offering a detailed and fascinating glimpse into the early days of what is now Fairfield Medical Center.

Unlike the digital, 3D blueprints that were generated for the current Project BRIGHT expansion, the Lancaster Municipal Hospital blueprints are actually blue and printed on a heavy, fabric-like paper. The date “April 12, 1915” is written on the bottom. Steve Burgess, supervisor of Plant Engineering, said the blueprints would have been hand drawn onto translucent tracing paper and then transferred onto the blueprint paper, which would have been coated with a photosensitive solution to reproduce the image. In the days before computers and printers, this process was a less expensive way to reproduce documents and much more efficient than hand-tracing everything. Burgess said it wasn’t until the 1990s that blueprints were created through a software program called computer-assisted drafting, or AutoCAD, and printed with a plotter, which is a large-scale printer.

The architect for Lancaster Municipal Hospital was Wilbur T. Mills of Columbus. The three-story structure housed 36 beds and 10 bassinets and cost $65,000 to erect. In 1930, wings were added to the north and south sides of the building, expanding its capacity to 82 beds. Another expansion project in 1953 resulted in the addition of a west wing, expanding the hospital’s capacity once more, this time to 128 beds. While the 1915 building and the north and south wings were eventually demolished...