



News Release

Contact: Amy Blaser, Vice President

Phone: (402) 562-3371

Email: aebblaser@columbushosp.org

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CCH opens a new maternal child health department

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Expectant moms, there’s an extra reason to be excited this spring: A new maternal child health department has opened at Columbus Community Hospital (CCH). The 18,400-square-foot unit will provide a comfortable setting for expectant mothers.

"I'm excited about the fresh, new look," said Kim Eisenmann, director of maternal child health. "We are gaining a lot more space, so we will also have room to grow,"

The department officially opened to patients on March 6, 2021. It is the hospital's latest area to be improved through a \$35 million expansion and renovation project. The project is helping the hospital meet the growing needs of Columbus and the surrounding area.

Since the project's groundbreaking in April 2019, CCH has expanded its surgical services area, added new conference rooms and completed a new and improved cardiopulmonary rehabilitation department.

The maternal child health move nearly doubles the department’s size, which is especially important because of the increase in births at the hospital. On average, CCH delivers 600 babies each year.

The new maternal child health department features eight labor, delivery, recovery, postpartum rooms (LDRPs); a surgical suite; four postpartum rooms, and a larger neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

The LDRP rooms include everything for mom and baby in the same location, including personal refrigerators.

The full-service surgical suite boasts state-of-the-art technology, including a video system that allows mothers to view their infants while undergoing procedures.



"We can turn a camera on the isolette, and that video gets projected so the mother can view what's going on with the baby the entire time," said Sue Hrnicek, director of surgical services. "This would also work with twin deliveries. We can rotate the camera between two isolettes."

The main waiting room for families and other guests is located right outside the unit. There are two nourishment centers where families can help themselves to coffee or other refreshments.

The unit is staffed by a highly competent and skilled nursing team with certifications in multiple specialties, including Certified Lactation Counselors (CLC), nurses who are Certified in Electronic Fetal Monitoring (C-EFM), and International Certified Childbirth Educators (IICE). Additionally, it is managed around the clock by a group of certified pediatric hospitalists who can provide infant care as needed.

Lactation counselors also are accessible for nursing mothers on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Follow-up appointments are available, as well as over-the-phone consultations.

The renovation and expansion project at CCH is scheduled to be completed later this year.

The area occupied by maternal child health on the second floor will be renovated into a senior behavioral health unit — an inpatient program targeting older adults with depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder and other mental health conditions. Some other hospital areas that will receive updates include the kitchen, gift shop, inpatient rehabilitation, radiology, endoscopy and infusion.

For more information about the maternal child health department at CCH or the building project, visit www.columbushosp.org.

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