

SSM St. Clare Health Center is the culmination of four years of planning in which employees, physicians, patient advocates, architects and other partners worked together to create an exceptional healing environment.

St. Clare Health Center opened March 30, 2009, in Fenton, Mo., and was the first full-service hospital built in St. Louis County in nearly 35 years. It is a replacement hospital for SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood (Mo.), which closed the same day.

Employees and physicians of St. Joseph Hospital transferred to St. Clare. Because of patient demand, an additional 700 employees and more than 200 physicians have joined the staff – resulting in more than 900 on the St. Clare medical staff.

SSM St. Clare opened March 30 with 154 beds, but added a 20-bed unit one year later due to patient volume, for a total inpatient capacity of 174.

SSM St. Clare offers a 24-hour emergency department and comprehensive medical/surgical services including neuro, heart, cancer, orthopedics and women's services.

The facility also features an outpatient care center offering one-stop convenience to a full range of diagnostic and outpatient services, as well as a medical office building (St. Francis Building) and an outpatient surgery center (St. Joseph Building).

Patient safety, quality, convenience and comfort are really at the forefront of St. Clare's design. From its structure to the processes for providing patient care, the hospital has been built from the ground up to achieve a new level of care.

Facility

- Construction began in June 2006
- Entire facility is approximately 600,000 square feet (includes the health center, the St. Francis and St. Joseph buildings)
- 54-acre campus
- Located in southwest St. Louis County at the intersection of Highway 141 and Bowles Avenue
- Less than six miles from SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood
- Architects: Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA) of Milwaukee, Wis. (partnered with Mackey Mitchell Associates of St. Louis)
- Construction managers: Alberici Healthcare Constructors of St. Louis

Hospital rooms at a glance

- Total of 174 beds, all-private patient/family suites
- 30 Emergency Services exam rooms
- 8 operating rooms
- 12 labor delivery recovery post-partum (LDRP) patient suites
- 10 OB/GYN patient suites

SSM HEALTH CARE – ST. LOUIS INCLUDES

Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center • DePaul Health Center • St. Clare Health Center • St. Joseph Health Center
St. Joseph Health Center – Wentzville • St. Joseph Hospital West • St. Mary's Health Center

- All 174 patient suites are enabled for telemetry

Economic impact

- \$236 million project
- 40,000 emergency room visits projected each year, nearly double the annual number at SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood
- Capability of 1,700 deliveries per year
- Approximately 1100 employees and 900 physicians on the St. Clare medical staff

Unique features

- Four distinct patient service areas – emergency, outpatient, inpatient and surgical/specialty. Each has close-in parking, a dedicated entry and simple registration, so patients can easily find their way and access the care they need. The outpatient surgery center provides the convenience of a freestanding surgical center with the support of a full-service hospital right next door.
- Evidence shows nature is healing. Floor-to-ceiling windows in patient suites bring in ample sunlight. The campus takes advantage of the site’s natural beauty and includes healing gardens, courtyards, a walking path and waterfall. Patients with cancer may choose to receive treatments in the Arbor Courtyard if they so choose. Artwork throughout the health center has been chosen for its ability to inspire.
- All patient/family suites are private, reducing the risk of hospital-acquired infections. In addition, countless design decisions, such as seamless linoleum flooring and bacteriostatic carpeting and fabrics, keep infection rates down and patient safety up.
- Families are considered part of the healing team and are welcome 24 hours a day. Each patient suite has a pull-out sofa bed and cozy visiting area.
- All patient suites are “same-handed,” which means identical in layout. Same-handed rooms improve safety by eliminating variation and creating room consistency for caregivers.
- Decentralized nursing pods directly outside patient rooms replace large, traditional nursing stations. Moving caregivers closer to patients improves visualization of the patient, speeds response time and eliminates unnecessary steps.
- An Electronic Health Record provides real-time access to the patient’s medical history and test results via a computer fixed at the patient’s bedside.

SSM HEALTH CARE – ST. LOUIS INCLUDES

Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center • DePaul Health Center • St. Clare Health Center • St. Joseph Health Center
St. Joseph Health Center – Wentzville • St. Joseph Hospital West • St. Mary’s Health Center

- Medications are stored in each patient suite. This sophisticated, automated system – the only one of its kind – allows caregivers to remain at the patient bedside and quickly administer medication to patients. It also reduces the chance for medication errors by keeping only that patient’s medications in the suite. In addition, bar-coding is placed on medications and on the patient armband.
- Advanced medical and surgical technology, including imaging equipment like the 64-slice CT scanning and panoramic high-field open MRI that features superior diagnostic quality without the claustrophobic experience of closed MRIs. Dedicated equipment for inpatients, outpatients and emergency patients to provide test results quicker.

SSM HEALTH CARE – ST. LOUIS INCLUDES

Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center • DePaul Health Center • St. Clare Health Center • St. Joseph Health Center
St. Joseph Health Center – Wentzville • St. Joseph Hospital West • St. Mary’s Health Center

Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.