

Rush-Copley officials celebrate new building on Aurora campus

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AURORA — Leaders at Rush-Copley Medical Center knew for years that they would have to add more physician offices to the hospital's Aurora campus.

They just never expected the need would arise this soon.

On Wednesday, the hospital offered tours of its new 80,000-square-foot Physician Office Building, a courtyard garden and a lobby, which connect to the existing hospital.

Construction on the \$27 million project started in February 2008 and the building officially opened several weeks ago, said John Diederich, Rush-Copley's chief operating officer.

"Since Rush-Copley has been in such a high-growth mode over the past decade," Diederich said, "we had a need for more physicians on our campus."

The new building is 80 percent leased. It houses eight practices, which include neurosurgery, a GI Center and an interventional pain center, as well as cardiovascular surgical physicians, primary care physicians and OB/GYN.

Diederich said the facility's extra space will be filled as the hospital's demand continues to grow.

Among the building's unique features is its energy-efficient design with tinted thermal glass and a computer that controls heating and cooling systems, according to the hospital.

At the end of this month there will be computer-like kiosks with touch screens throughout the new lobby, which Diederich said will replace "old traditional maps."

If a patient needs to go to the X-ray department, Diederich explained, the patient will type in the word "X-ray" and get a print-out of a customized map showing how to get to that location. The kiosks will give directions in English and Spanish.

There also is a 20,000-square-foot courtyard garden, which community members can be part of by purchasing a bench, landscape trees or flower beds, among other items, to add to the green space.

Find out more at Rush-Copley's Web site. Find a link there at:

beaconnewsonline.com

