

Sacred Heart Hospital Pensacola - Bayou Tower Expansion



The patient experience of the future

Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola (SHHP), Florida, is a 466-bed acute care hospital that has been rated by area consumers as the most preferred hospital in the area. SHHP recently completed its new \$52 million Bayou Tower expansion that adds five new floors of patient care units with 112 private rooms.

The addition enables Sacred Heart to expand services and meet the community's need for more beds for critically ill patients – a need driven in part by the hospital's status as a regional Trauma Center. The added units also allow Sacred Heart to offer private rooms throughout its new tower and the main hospital.

Designing for an optimal patient experience

The new Bayou Tower is all about redesigning the care that SHHP gives to patients and their families.

Floors 4 and 5 of Bayou Tower are intensive care units with a total of 40 ICU rooms for patients with life-threatening conditions. The updated floor plan includes spacious rooms with large interior windows and workstations between the rooms to allow physicians and staff to maintain visual contact with critically-ill patients. Floors 6 and 7 have 25 rooms on each floor for patients treated for cardiac conditions, including those recovering from heart surgery or cardiac procedures. Each room has a private bathroom, an exterior window, and additional space for family and visitors. The floor plan includes centrally-located nursing stations and large physician work areas.



Using integrated louvers

A total of 443 Vision Control® insulating glass units with integrated cord-free louvers have been installed in the Bayou Tower. These units feature all gray louvers with clear tempered glass on both sides as follows:

- *Interior Doors:* 73 Vision Control® units, factory-glazed in aluminum trim kits for 1 ¾" thick swing doors. Thumbwheel operators accessible on both sides of the door.
- *Multi-Panel Nurses Alcoves:* 210 Vision Control® units for 2-panel, 3-panel and 4-panel nurses' alcoves for patient observation. Fan-shaped thumbwheel operators accessible from nurses' station only.
- *Sliding Doors:* 160 Vision Control® Mini units with 1" airspace specifically designed for use in sliding doors. Units were provided with Unicel's aluminum universal trims kits, clear anodized to match the finish of the sliding doors. Specially-designed flat knob operators were used for single-side access, allowing the doors to slide without any obstruction.

The result – soothing esthetics and privacy

Both public areas and private patient rooms are decorated in neutral earth tones with warm wood accents to ensure esthetic appeal. The rooms are designed to ensure safety and promote a healing environment:

- Each room has an exterior window so that patients can enjoy the benefits of natural light and improved orientation to a day-night cycle.
- Vision Control® units permit nursing staff to discreetly monitor patients by controlling louvers. Nurses can adjust viewing as required, but patients will not be disturbed or distracted by lack of privacy.
- Vision Control® units afford greater sound control, to further ensure a tranquil healing environment and acoustic privacy.

Every aspect of the Bayou Tower project focused on enhancing the patient experience and improving the quality of care.

Participants:

Owner: Sacred Heart Health Systems, Pensacola, FL

Design Architect: FreemanWhite, Charlotte, NC

Louvered Glazing: Unicel Architectural, Montreal, Canada

THE CREATORS OF

