

THE NEW JOE D. HAS PATIENT AND FAMILY SPACES GALORE!

Thanks to the active commitment and involvement of dozens of JDCH Family and Youth Advisors over more than two years, the new freestanding Joe DiMaggio Childrens Hospital is not only patient and family-centered in the delivery of healthcare services, but also in its physical environment –the light and color schemes contribute greatly to a sense that the building itself is a gracious and healing space. The Advisory Councils were instrumental in identifying and planning the kinds of spaces and activities that patients and their families need during a hospitalization.



Dedicated to “the power of play,” the hospital has an outdoor playground, and numerous Child Life play spaces are scattered throughout both inpatient and out patient areas. The 3rd and 4th floors boast two playrooms, two teen rooms, and two family lounges, in addition to two Quiet Balconies to relax in. But it’s not all play: there is a brand new classroom for patients so that they don’t miss out on their school curriculum.

The Family Resource Center on the first floor (left) offers a large, relaxing “living room” space for families, as well as books, pamphlets, and computer kiosks. Outside the Resource Center in the lobby area is an interactive playroom and event area.



The “interactive patient room” is coming closer to reality at JDCH. The patient rooms at JDCH have now been outfitted with the GetWellTown™, the pediatric version of the GetWell Network™, which entertains, educates, and empowers patients using their bedside TV in the hospital. There’s increasingly powerful evidence that engaging patients and families at the point of care – the hospital room, the physician’s office – can result in improved outcomes for the patients, the families, and the provider. That’s the fundamental premise behind The GetWell Network, an innovative leader in the interactive patient systems technologies.

Of all the wonderful spaces in the new JDCH building, nothing can compare to the beautiful 4th floor labyrinth space. It features a skylight, a water feature, and the Labyrinth meditation space, dedicated to former patient Daniella’s Journey. Says a family member of a recent patient at JDCH:



The stories and the way they are shared throughout the new hospital have been truly inspiring and therapeutic for our entire family. A special story that has so touched our life is Daniella Folleco’s, the remarkable young lady who passed away after a battle with osteosarcoma. Although she is gone from this place, her family and those that have generously supported her memory and cause have given a remarkable gift to this new facility. The beautiful atrium not only fulfills Daniella’s wish for children who spend time here, it is an important part of what has made this structure a home for us.



Here’s to the collaborative partnership of the JDCH Youth Advisors, Family Advisors, and staff for a job gracefully and joyfully well done!