

Brooks Builds First Green Health Care Building in Jacksonville

Jacksonville-based, Brooks Rehabilitation is breaking ground on the first green building registered for LEED certification on a healthcare campus in Northeast Florida. The \$14.8 million administration building will follow the nationally accepted benchmark: the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ -- for the design, construction and operation of the facility.

The nearly 47,000 square-foot building will serve as the corporate headquarters for the Brooks Health System's 143-bed Rehabilitation Hospital and its 24 outpatient clinics located from Southeast Georgia throughout Florida. Some of the environmental benefits of building green include improved air and water quality, and conserving natural resources. "While this project is very exciting for us as good stewards of our resources; we are even more excited about being able to move our administrative employees into a central location adjacent to the hospital," said Doug Baer, president and CEO of Brooks.

As the region's premier rehabilitation provider, Brooks has been responding to increased need for its services. The new administration building is one of three construction projects making up nearly \$25-million-dollars worth of projects on the Brooks hospital campus. For the past several months the hospital has been undergoing an \$8.7 million renovation to convert most patient rooms into private rooms. Brooks has also done an extensive \$1.4 million renovation to its Health Care Plaza Outpatient Clinic located just a few blocks from the hospital. Because of all the construction, nearly 100 Brooks employees have been relocated. When the building is finished in July of 2009, they will all be in a central location, adjacent to the main hospital.

The team of Gresham Smith & Partners, Architects and Interior designers, McVeigh & Mangum's Engineers, Fickling Construction and representatives from Brooks have worked together throughout the design of the project to assure that goals and objectives of green design are met. In addition to office space, the four-floor facility will also feature a large training center for hospital employees and community events, and a new main visitor entry that will showcase Brooks and its community involvement. The groundbreaking was held Thursday, April 10, at 10:30 a.m., at the Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital Campus.

LEED Certified Buildings in Jacksonville, FL (current as of 3/18/08)

UNF Social Sciences Building	UNF	Jacksonville	FL	US	Certified
PHH BUILDING	LIBERTY PROPERTY TRUST	Jacksonville	FL	US	Certified
TLC Engineering Jacksonville Office	TLC Engineering for Architecture	Jacksonville	FL	US	Silver

About Brooks

Serving the community for more than 35 years, Brooks has a long-standing tradition of providing quality inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation care to Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. The 143-bed acute physical rehab hospital is unique in the region with a highly trained staff and an unmatched range of services. Brooks has an extensive network of 25 outpatient centers as well as a cutting-edge research facility which provide the best continuum of post-acute care possible to the communities served. As a non-profit health system, Brooks is dedicated to meeting the needs and improving the health of the community. An example is the Brooks Adaptive Sports program, which offers training and competitive sports opportunities locally and nationally to athletes with physical disabilities. Currently, adaptive sports offered include: basketball, rugby, hand cycling, tennis in partnership with the First Coast Tennis Foundation, and rowing in partnership with Jacksonville University. Brooks is more than rehabilitation. It's about being you again. More information on Brooks can be found at www.brooksrehab.org.