

# Methodist Health System

## Making women's health care a priority

Throughout Methodist Health System—Methodist Hospital, Methodist Physicians Clinic and Jennie Edmundson Hospital—attention is being paid to wellness for women in many different ways. One of the most palpable examples of this initiative is the construction of an entire hospital and campus dedicated expressly to women's care.

Building is currently under way at 192nd & West Dodge Road for Methodist Women's Hospital, the first hospital of its kind in the region. The 74 obstetric and gynecologic physicians and three nurse midwives, who currently practice at Methodist Hospital, are already slated to move to the new facility. Heading up the new hospital is the energetic and highly focused chief operating officer, Susan K. Korth, Ph.D.

The new COO's professional and academic credentials make her uniquely qualified for the job, but it is her creative and well-reasoned approach to this undertaking that is most compelling.

"I want to go beyond the confines of 'what's been done' and make 'what can be' something tangible," Korth said.

The goal of the Methodist Women's Hospital is to provide excellence in personalized, family-centered care through education and creative practice. Korth and

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her team intend to deliver on that goal. They've begun by looking at every aspect of care in the new facility through the eyes of the patient.

"Hospital visits and stays can be stressful for everyone in the family, so we've put a great deal of thought into

the details and amenities that make a hospital experience more pleasant," Korth said.

Full-size rooms were constructed at Methodist replicating the same floor plans, requisite equipment and décor as the patient rooms in the new hospital. Doctors, nurses, staff and patients were then invited to tour the rooms and provide feedback on feasibility, ergonomics, comfort level—anything and everything that might affect patient care. Their responses are



Rendering of the new Methodist Women's Hospital at 192nd & West Dodge Road

helping to shape the hospital stays of future patients because a positive experience will often result in a positive outcome.

All patient rooms in the Methodist Women's Hospital will be private, with necessary equipment and apparatus

on-hand, but out-of-sight. Some rooms, such as those reserved for high-risk pregnancy patients, will feature accommodations closely resembling studio apartments.

A Level IIIA Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) will help alleviate the metropolitan area's shortage of beds for at-risk babies. In addition to maternity services, the new women's hospital will provide a full range of gynecological services for women of all ages.

The new hospital will offer both men and women a host of outpatient diagnostics, while the 84th Street campus will continue to provide the core major services of cardiac and cancer care.

Many green spaces have been planned for the campus, including a rooftop living garden. The garden will feature easy access for hospital beds, providing patients on mandatory bed rest a much-needed change of venue.

Dr. Korth and her staff are working tirelessly to implement innovations that will benefit patients and personnel alike. They join colleagues throughout the system in championing wellness for women and making Methodist Health System the leader in women's health. ■



Chief Operating Officer of the new Methodist Women's Hospital

### About Susan K. Korth

Susan K. Korth has over 20 years of clinical and medical management experience, including five years at Methodist Hospital as a clinical supervisor in high-risk OB/GYN.

Korth earned a bachelor's degree in Health Administration from the College of St. Francis, a bachelor's in nursing from the College of St. Mary, a master's degree in Public Health Administration from the University of Minnesota and a doctorate in Health Care Administration from Pacific Western University.

She joined Methodist from Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, where she worked in quality improvement.

"I've been looking forward to a challenge like this since I began working in women's health care. It's a privilege to work with such an inspiring team."