

PROJECT SPECS

The project consists of over 25,000 sq-ft of work split into 22 individual phases. The project phasing needed to be compartmentalized into smaller portions that would allow the hospital to maintain day-to-day operations during the course of construction without interruption, as the hospital is an active safety-net facility that provides critical services to its surrounding community. Due to the prioritization of hospital operations, these phases often divide corridor, clinic and waiting room areas that flow directly into one another and the order of operations has changed over time due to the ever-evolving needs of the end users.

The transformation includes new floor, wall, and ceiling finishes with vibrant colors to liven up the interior and to provide a clear wayfinding. There is a careful introduction of transparent and translucent materials for openness and privacy. The dynamic ceiling treatment throughout the corridors is meant to both define the program areas and shape the logic of an easy to understand and welcoming wayfinding. The project spec list includes 3-Form resin panels, Skyacoustic ceiling, AXIS lighting Tarkett rubber flooring, and KBI Custom Case solid surface millwork.

TECHNOLOGICAL/MATERIAL INNOVATIONS

The interior transformation includes new floor, wall, and ceiling finishes to brighten and enliven the interior environment through a bold and expressive introduction of color, as well as provide clear wayfinding for patient access to the various programs throughout the hospital. Creation of new partitions and demolition of existing barriers in various clinical areas, including the emergency department, seek to reshape programmatic adjacencies and better promote the identity of wellness and privacy for all. Careful introduction of transparent and translucent materials assists in promoting openness and privacy simultaneously, while providing opportunities to tie the hospital back to the culture of the surrounding community through the introduction of local art and imagery of nearby landmarks. The introduction of a dynamic ceiling treatment throughout the corridors is meant to both define the various program areas throughout the project, as well as shape the logic of signage and wayfinding that is both welcoming and easy to understand.

SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This region of Chicago is recognized as having one of the largest Puerto Rican populations in the United states, and interestingly, the last several decades have seen an increase in Puerto Ricans moving into the area. However, there has been an overall decrease in population (white flight) and disinvestment in the area. The interior renovation of the hospital represents an opportunity to re-establish a sense of pride and dignity for the neighborhood, and more importantly it reinforces the first step in a neighborhood-wide wellness plan by promoting wellness and comfort for both patients and staff.