



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Governor Tony Evers / Secretary Kevin A. Carr

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New Assisted Needs Facility Complete, Being Readied for Patients

Oregon, Wis. - Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) Secretary Kevin Carr joined members of the DOC's Bureau of Health Services and other guests at Oakhill Correctional Institution (OCI) Tuesday, to tour the facility's recently-completed Assisted Needs Facility.

The \$7 million addition is the first assisted needs housing in a Wisconsin DOC institution and is designed to meet the needs of an aging population.

“Like any other agency that provides health care, Wisconsin DOC has to adjust to the changing needs of its patients. Like the rest of society, our population is aging,” said DOC Secretary Kevin Carr. “As their needs change, due to advanced age and accumulation of chronic medical conditions, we have to adapt our health services to meet those needs. This new facility represents such a step.”

The expansion at the minimum-security institution in Oregon will allow patients to receive additional rehabilitative services following prolonged illness or surgery, and regain independent function. In addition, patients will be able to receive long-term care assistance with activities of daily living.

“A number of people in our care have limited mobility and chronic medical conditions that make living in traditional correctional settings difficult, and it is also difficult for our staff to provide them with adequate care and supervision in such settings,” said DOC Medical Director Dr. Daniel LaVoie.

This new service at OCI will compliment already existing long-term care DOC provides, including palliative and infirmary care at multiple institutions.

The addition at OCI will be able to house 65 patients. The upper level will have 15 beds for those needing rehabilitative services, and monitoring and care from nurses. The lower level can house up to 50 people who need an adaptive/assisted living environment.

The DOC continues to hire staff for the new Assisted Needs Facility and is expecting to welcome patients in early 2022.

The building was designed by Venture Architects and constructed by Cullen.