

The Mercy Virtual Care Center

Chesterfield, Missouri



SQ FT
125,000 BGSF



OWNER/AFFILIATION
Mercy Health



ARCHITECT(S)
Forum Studio



COMPLETION DATE
2015



EXTERIOR



INTERIOR



INTERIOR

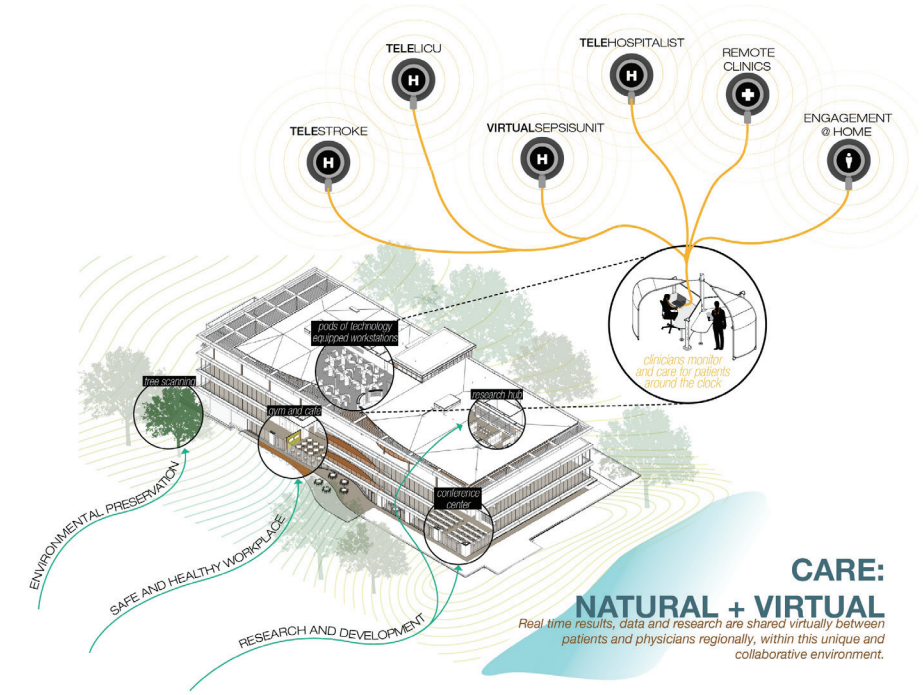


SITE MAP

ABOUT | DESIGN INTENTIONS

The Mercy Virtual Care Center is the beginning of a transformational approach to healthcare with 125,000-square-feet of highly flexible space that supports enhanced health care delivery systems that operate 24/7, incorporating **telemedicine, care management, research analytics and the business infrastructure to support and advance virtual care** to both Mercy and non-affiliated patients. This new approach of competing healthcare providers working collaboratively to cure our nations broken healthcare system occurs in the first building of the 40-acre integrated Mercy Campus that reunites and facilitates learning, ministry, telemedicine, and clinical care.

The Virtual Care Center was carefully positioned to save existing, mature trees that provide natural shading to the building's south and west exposures, while also offering an amazing indoor/outdoor experience for the building's occupants. The building engages the site at the ground plane in a weightless manner and allows nature's wonder and its daylight to visually enter the building so a symbiosis between man and nature will occur.



**CARE:
NATURAL + VIRTUAL**
Real time results, data and research are shared virtually between patients and physicians regionally, within this unique and collaborative environment.

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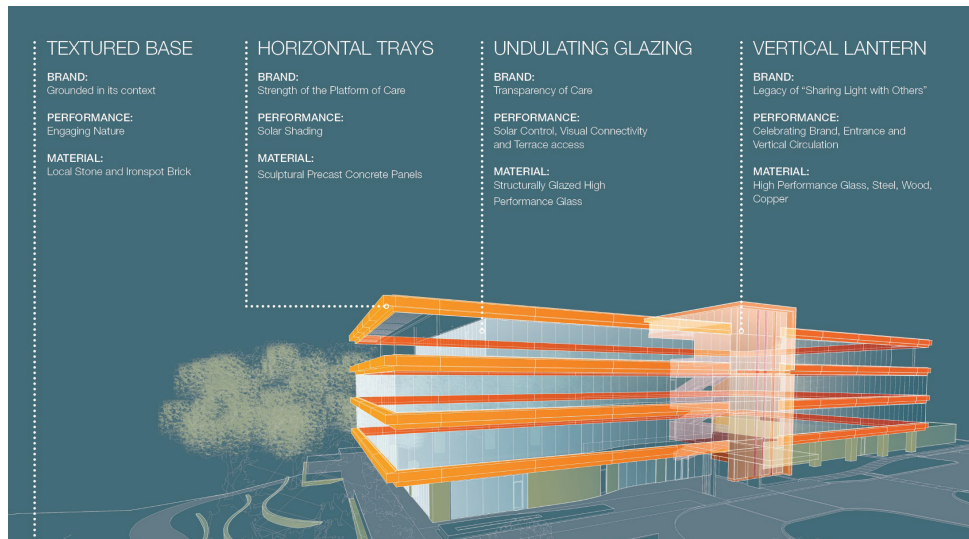
EXPERIENCE

Mercy Virtual is entered via a **naturally-lit stair lantern**, alongside a reflecting pool that pushes from the building's exterior to the interior. The calm water is rippled periodically by a single disruptive droplet, symbolizing the potential impact and power of an unconventional idea or action.

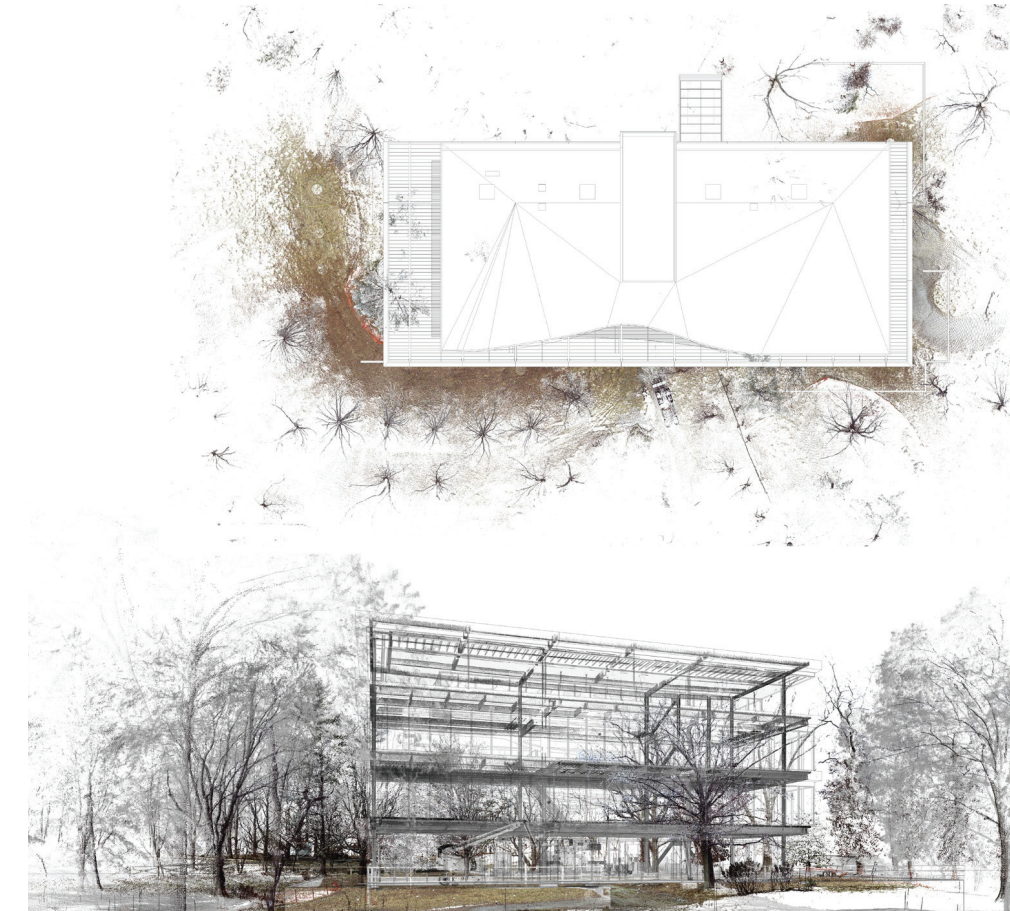
Further within the lobby stands a staggered array of LED columns across which images from the Mercy archives slowly shift and (at a specific point) resolve, communicating that while Mercy's mission is a historical one, its principles translate to contemporary and innovative applications.

Mercy Virtual's second floor houses the actual, operational telemedicine teams that monitor and deliver healthcare to thousands of patients. A demonstration space dubbed the "Continuum of Care" directly illustrates these services to visitors.

The fourth floor houses the "Garage" — a highly-collaborative and (inter)active work environment for healthcare innovators, visiting technologists, and strategic partners. With reconfigurable work walls and large-format technology that allows flexible, real-time sharing and editing between disparately located team members, the "Garage" enables the pushing of boundaries so that Mercy's telemedicine programs are continually evolved and made more effective.



SITE PLAN



BUILDING DESIGN

Rectangular 30,000-square-foot floor plates are designed to optimize flexibility and accommodate changing programs and technologies of the future. Each floor is strongly expressed as horizontal bands that represent the stability and strength of Mercy's platform. Floor-to-ceiling glass spans between each horizontal band and represents the transparency of the Mercy mission and the accessibility to their services. On each floor the glass strategically undulates to create entry locations and balconies on upper floors. These curved forms represent the flexibility of Mercy's evolving response to the future of healthcare service. The balconies also allow the building occupants to easily step outside from their indoor workplace to refresh and to feel the impact of nature on their spirit, emotions, creativity and their productivity.

The Mercy Virtual Care Center Chesterfield, Missouri

Department Plan Key: **FIRST LEVEL:**

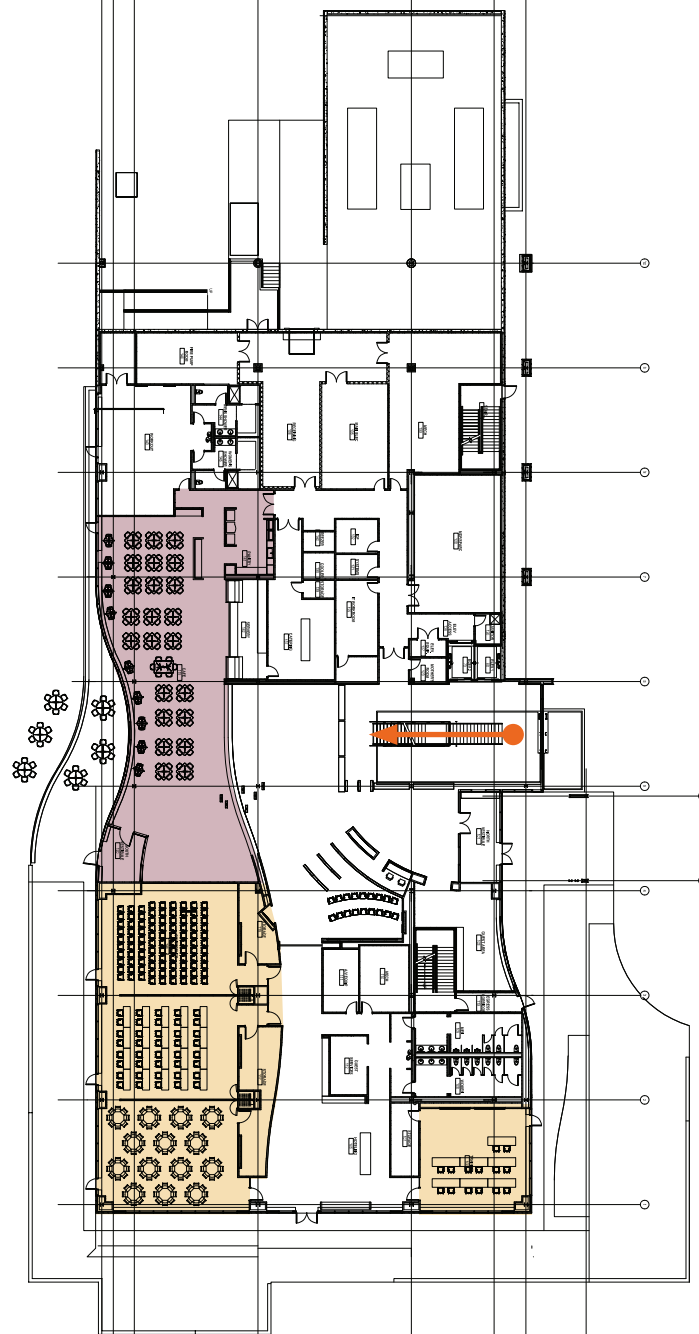
- Conference/Training
- Cafe/Refreshment

Staff Circulation



Departmental Gross Square Foot
Take-Offs

Conference/Training	5881 sf
Cafe/Refreshment	4294 sf

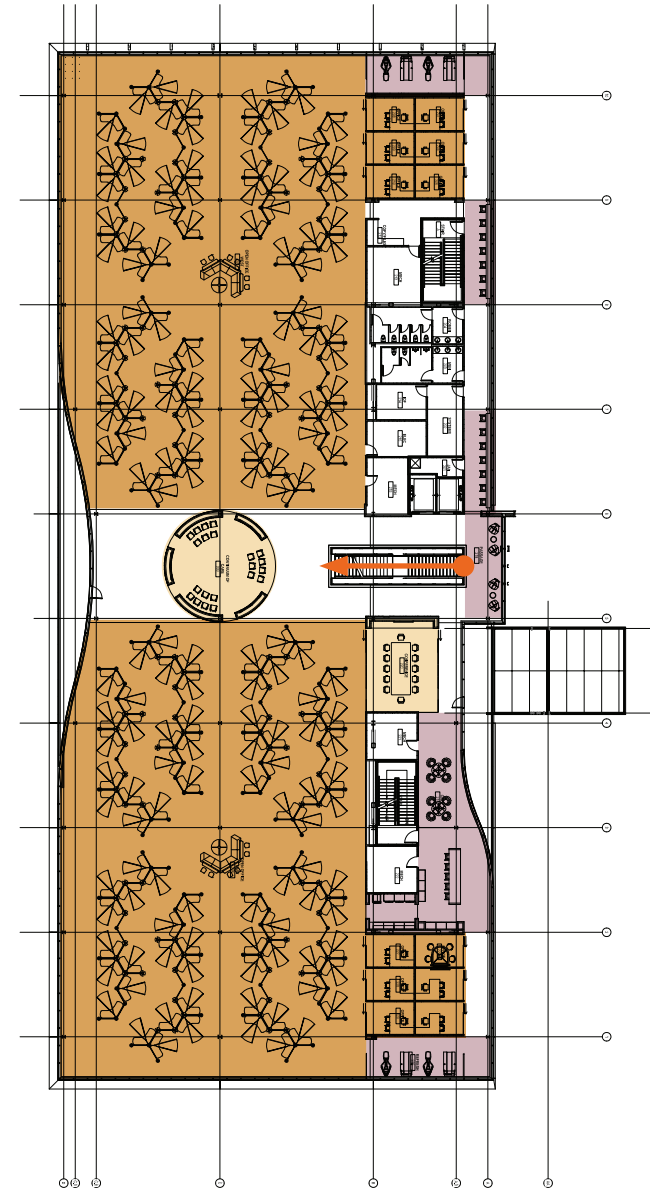


SECOND LEVEL:

Department Plan Key:

- Conference/Training
- Cafe/Refreshment
- Office

Staff Circulation



Departmental Gross Square Foot
Take-Offs

Conference/Training	1367 sf
Cafe/Refreshment	2648 sf
Office	24554 sf

MERCY VIRTUAL CARE CENTER | CASE STUDY ANALYSIS

AIA Academy of Architecture for Health | Research Initiatives Committee

DRAFT

The Mercy Virtual Care Center Chesterfield, Missouri

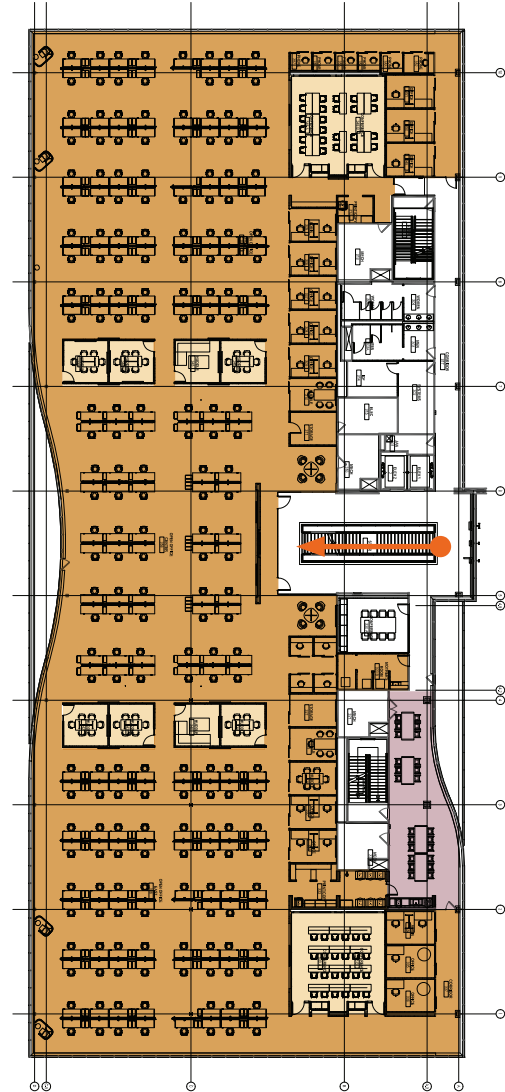
- Department Plan Key:
- Conference/Training/Huddle Room
 - Cafe/Refreshment
 - Office
- Staff Circulation



Departmental Gross Square Foot
Take-Offs

Conference/Training	3377 sf
Cafe/Refreshment	1084 sf
Office	25400 sf

THIRD LEVEL:

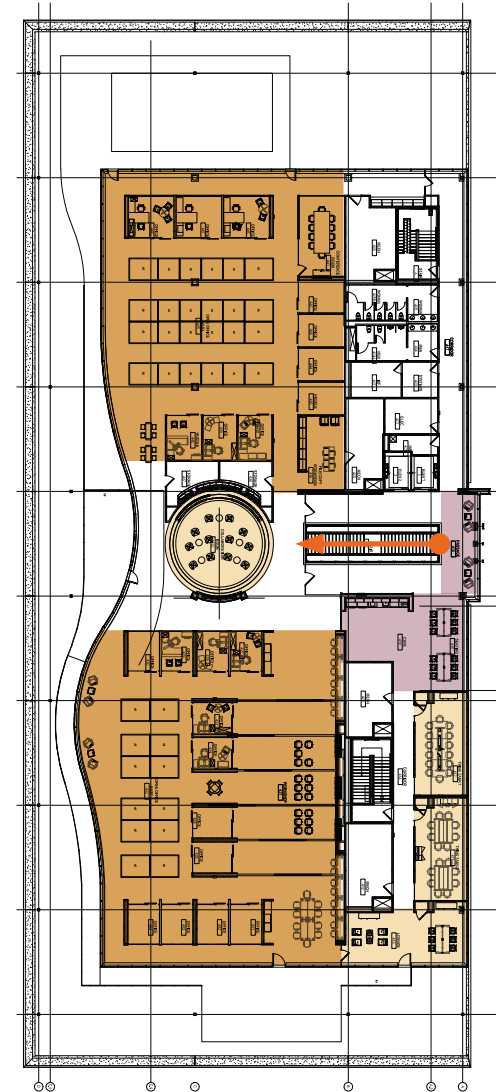


FOURTH LEVEL:

Department Plan Key:

- Conference/Training
- Cafe/Refreshment
- Office

- Staff Circulation



Departmental Gross Square Foot
Take-Offs

Conference/Training	1489 sf
Cafe/Refreshment	1214 sf
Office	13010 sf



The Mercy Virtual Care Center Chesterfield, Missouri

INTERIOR

The virtual care center houses the technology and clinicians for three major programs including **Mercy SafeWatch**, **ConnectNow** and **CareEngage**. **ConnectNow** links patients and providers with online-enabled instruments to perform medical exams and view test results. **SafeWatch** provides 24-hour patient monitoring using video, audio or online-enabled medical devices. **CareMatters** analytics tools and technologies help providers manage current and future patient health needs.



AIA/AAH DESIGN AWARD WINNER

Category B: Built, more than \$25 million in construction cost

JURY COMMENT

This project is a non-traditional “healthcare” project, in that it houses no patients, but connects to them through technology. It is an outstanding example of how the caregiver can be cared for. We can imagine, driving up to this workplace, that a staff member would be reminded how much the organization cares for her/him. This project recognizes the humanity of the healthcare worker – that they don’t just represent a technological interface.

The design parti is skillfully carried throughout the entire project, down to the detailing; this is evident in the beautiful sketches and well-framed imagery. The integrated terraces providing direct access to nature, with the cantilevered terrace particularly striking. The environment provides the opportunity to be calm and thoughtful, using sensory stimuli to help one stay balanced.

The jury’s key thought for this project: The future of healthcare is here.

