

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

JANUARY 2014

AGENCY: Department of Health Services

DHS CONTACT: Ed Neckar, 608-267-4594, edwin.neckar@wisconsin.gov

LOCATION: Winnebago Mental Health Institute, City of Oshkosh, Winnebago County

PROJECT REQUEST:

Request design through construction services for Petersik Hall Special Management Area project at the Winnebago Mental Health Institute for an estimated cost of \$37,100 – Building Trust Funds.

PROJECT NUMBER: 13J3H

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project will construct a Special Management Area (SMA) for aggressive female forensic patients. The SMA will be attached to the Petersik Hall North Unit. The project will renovate approximately 240 GSF of North Unit and add five additional patient rooms (wet), day rooms, shower rooms, a secure staff area, an evaluation room and associated mechanical and electrical rooms in the lower level, totaling approximately 2,600 GSF first floor, 1,200 GSF lower level and outdoor courtyards.

JUSTIFICATION:

This project is needed for the safety and security of the inmates and staff at the Winnebago Mental Health Institution (WMHI). Petersik Hall contains two medium security forensic units, with a combined total of 58 staffed beds. One unit exclusively houses female patients, while the other exclusively houses males. The unit dedicated to female patients is the only state hospital space serving adult and minor female forensic patients.

Recent system-wide changes made to improve patient services and delivery efficiencies have modified the composition of WMHI patient populations, resulting in a more concentrated number of aggressive women. As a result, all female patients who require medium-security custody and the small number presenting maximum-custody needs must be housed in a single unit in Petersik Hall. Several female patients who could not be housed elsewhere have been assaulted and some injured by more aggressive women. Additionally, the WMHI staff sustains a very high rate of injury due to the need to physically intervene when aggression occurs or due directly to patient-on-staff assaults. The Division of Quality Assurance surveyor (inspector) in November, 2011, placed

WMHI on notice that the facility has a direct and foreseeable obligation to prevent women from injury or worse as a result of this situation.

The SMA will consist of 5 patient rooms, associated day rooms, shower rooms, courtyards, and patient evaluation and secure staff area. This area will be capable of housing five patients separately from the rest of the female patients, allowing for better management of the most aggressive women. It will decrease the risk and injuries to female patients and the WMHI staff, improve patient care and reduce liability for the State of Wisconsin.

BUDGET AND SCHEDULE:

Construction	
Design	
DFD Mgt	
Contingency	
Equipment	
Other Fees	
TOTAL	\$1,441,000

AE Selection	Jan 2014
SBC Approval	June 2014
Bid Opening	May 2015
Start Construction	Aug 2015
Substantial Completion	Apr 2016
Final Completion	Oct 2016

PREVIOUS ACTION:

This project was enumerated in the 2013-2015 Capital Budget.