

ARCHITECTURAL SHOWCASE

NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Buckl Architects CHERRY HILL, NJ

“Sam’s NICU”: Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Renovation,
Atlantic Health—Morristown Memorial Hospital MORRISTOWN, NJ



Welcome to Sam’s NICU! A dedicated donor, hospital administration, and NICU staff were all committed to enhancing the environment for neonatal care at Morristown, by creating a new quiet, warm atmosphere for the infants and families, with comfortable private rooms for singles, twins, and triplets, leaving the noisy open NICU ward behind.

As you approach Sam’s NICU through a gallery of memories and successful patient stories, the sense is that you have arrived at a “very special place” of caring, warmth, and comfort for those families that must make this a “temporary second home.” Families and visitors enter the unit through the family lounge which provides a place of retreat to visit with other families, have a bite to eat, or for siblings to play.

Each patient room provides all of the high-tech support required for critical infant care, but does so in an environment that is comfortable and friendly. Family areas within each room provide parents a private space without leaving their infant’s side. Glass tile, artwork, and accent lighting provide those touches that make even this high-tech area feel just a bit like home.

Charting pods allow staff to visually monitor up to four rooms from a single location, all with direct visual contact to the main nurse charting area. Other staff support areas are centrally located via a private staff corridor. Natural light is abundant throughout the unit with plentiful views to the tree-covered rolling hills beyond the hospital grounds.





Project category: Remodel/Renovation (completed February 2009)
Chief administrator: Robert Peake, Director—Facilities Management (973) 971-4959
Firm: Buckl Architects, (856) 857-0044
Design team: Keith Kammerer, RA, Principal; Lee Tamaccio, Design Director; Jacqueline Simmers, Project Manager (Buckl Architects); John Sierra, Principal (The Eckroth Planning Group, Inc.); Judy Smith, MHA, Principal (Smith Hager Bajo); John McDevitt, Principal (PWI Engineering)
Photography: 2008 Greg Benson
Total building area (sq. ft.): 21,200
Construction cost/sq. ft.: \$330
Total construction cost (excluding land): \$7,000,000



BEFORE

