

News Release

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AtlantiCare to bring new Cancer Center to region *Patient/family-centered facility to open in 2009*



AtlantiCare, The Cancer Care Institute, a Fox Chase Cancer Center Partner, plans to expand the world-class cancer diagnosis and treatment it provides. It will do so in a comfortable, patient/family-centered outpatient environment. AtlantiCare held a symbolic groundbreaking Monday, April 14 for its new Cancer Center. The \$32,539,000 facility is expected to be completed in summer 2009.

Nearly 200 invited guests attended the event. They received a lavender ribbon pin, symbolizing cancer awareness, and an eco-friendly tote bag, in recognition of AtlantiCare's environmentally friendly approach to building the facility.

The two-story, 39,600-square-foot facility will be in the AtlantiCare Health Park, 2500 English Creek Avenue, Egg Harbor Township, next to the AtlantiCare LifeCenter. Ground clearing began in March. Once complete, outpatient oncology and radiation services currently offered at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center (ARMC) Mainland campus in Pomona will relocate to AtlantiCare's Cancer Center.

"We continue to commit our skills, resources and passion to fighting cancer for our current and future patients," said David P. Tilton, president and CEO, AtlantiCare. "Our new Cancer Center will provide patients and their families and loved ones convenient, easy access to multidisciplinary clinical teams."

"AtlantiCare's commitment to giving cancer patients access to the most advanced care is evident in its bringing this cancer center to the region," said Paul F. Engstrom, MD, senior vice president for extramural research programs at Fox Chase. "Providing treatment while focusing on the patient's overall comfort and cancer experience is vital to the well-being of those affected by cancer."



Services at AtlantiCare's Cancer Center will include chemotherapy/infusion therapy. There will be 12 chemotherapy infusion bays. Eight will be private for those who prefer to be alone or with their loved ones during treatment. The other four, called "buddy bays," will allow the company of others for those who prefer to be with other patients during treatment.

Radiation therapy will include linear accelerator treatment, including external-beam radiation treatment, intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT), stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and electronic brachytherapy. Diagnostic services will include computed tomography (CT) simulation scanning and positive emission tomography (PET) scanning - a form of nuclear medicine imaging.

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(AtlantiCare to bring new Cancer Center to region – add one)

As they do now, patients will also have access to clinical cancer trials through AtlantiCare's Fox Chase Cancer Center partnership. AtlantiCare will also offer its Preparing for Chemotherapy and Preparing for Radiation Therapy classes, breast cancer survivor support groups and other educational and community events in the Cancer Center.

AtlantiCare's Cancer Center will offer this advanced technology in a setting that maximizes patient comfort and privacy. Natural colors, access to nature and natural light and natural building materials will add to a soft environment. Zen garden, beach, neighborhood and woodlands themes will designate different areas of the center. Thirty percent of the façade of the building will be glass to allow natural light and a view of the outdoors.

“Our experienced, compassionate team uses the most advanced technology to diagnose and treat cancer patients,” said Lauren Ochs, executive director, Oncology Services, AtlantiCare. “Through the Cancer Center, we will expand our programs and services. We've designed the facility with the goal of meeting the physical and emotional healing needs of patients and their families, friends and caregivers.”

In keeping with a natural theme, AtlantiCare is taking an environmentally friendly building approach. It is constructing the Cancer Center with a goal of achieving the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. Roofing and other materials will contribute to energy conservation. High-efficiency cooling and pumping systems will operate in response to environmental needs. Interior finishes and materials will be eco-friendly.

“Our community wants and deserves this high level of care,” said Craig Keyser, chairman, ARMC Board of Trustees. “Their voices guide the development of new services, programs and facilities – including this Cancer Center we begin to build today.”

About AtlantiCare, The Cancer Care Institute, a Fox Chase Cancer Center Partner

AtlantiCare became an affiliate of Fox Chase Cancer Center in 2006. Through this affiliation, AtlantiCare, The Cancer Care Institute, a Fox Chase Cancer Center Partner, expanded the scope and enhanced the quality of services it provides those living with cancer and their families. This partnership allows AtlantiCare to offer the community new programs for those at high risk of developing cancer, expanded cancer prevention studies and the most advanced cancer treatments. This includes expanded participation in clinical studies, also called clinical trials. These trials include phase II and phase III (final testing stage) drug studies and other cancer treatment studies.

Photo Caption: AtlantiCare broke ground on its new, 39,600 square foot, two-story Cancer Center Monday, April 14. Pictured left to right are Jorge Cassir, MD, Radiation Oncology, ARMC; Terri Schieder, vice president for Clinical Development and Integration, AtlantiCare; Lori Herndon, senior vice president and chief operating officer, ARMC; James Wurzer, MD, medical director, Radiation Oncology, AtlantiCare; Frank Carpenter, administrative director, Radiation Services, ARMC; Lauren Ochs, executive director, Oncology Services, AtlantiCare; and David P. Tilton, president and CEO, AtlantiCare.

Photo Caption: James Wurzer, MD, medical director, Radiation Oncology, AtlantiCare, addresses the audience at AtlantiCare's symbolic groundbreaking for its new Cancer Center.

AtlantiCare is a regional healthcare organization based in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, whose more than 4,580 employees serve the healthcare needs of the community at more than 60 locations. It includes AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center (ARMC), the AtlantiCare Foundation, AtlantiCare Health Plans, AtlantiCare Behavioral Health and AtlantiCare Health Services. ARMC became the 105th hospital in the nation to attain status as a Magnet™ designated hospital in March of 2004.