



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release...

**Ground-Breaking of Heart Institute Office on the Campus
of the Heart Hospital of New Mexico**

10/4/2002 - Albuquerque, New Mexico: The New Mexico Heart Institute (NMHI) will break ground Tuesday, October 8, 2002 at 12:30 pm for their new 36,500 square feet office building, located on 2.3 acres immediately south of the Heart Hospital of New Mexico.

"The construction of the Heart Institute offices in such close proximity to our surgical and inpatient functions is the next step in our master plan" says Cardiologist and spokesperson, Dr. Harvey White, "NMHI and the Heart Hospital of New Mexico are demonstrating a commitment to heart care and heart health for the State of New Mexico...a campus completely dedicated to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of heart disease".

In addition, the facility is designed to improve operational efficiencies and provide convenient patient access to all services.

The building will house 17 cardiologists, 4 surgeons and 118 staff members from the recently merged NMHI and Southwest Cardiology practices. Cardiovascular services available to patients from that location will include cardiology consultation, nuclear imaging, cardiovascular sonography, stress tests, EECF, and a pacemaker clinic.

The main entrance to the building is located across from a cul-de-sac adjacent to the heart hospital, providing a common point of entry and a strong sense of place for the complex. The functional area is developed on two flexible floor plates, with space for a cardiac outpatient clinic, imaging department, patient receiving and processing, business office and support space. The exterior image of the facility is designed to be compatible in material, color, massing, and detail to the existing Heart Hospital, providing a single, visually unified, corporate image for the entire development. As with the original hospital, the development of the exterior appearance of the facility is designed to achieve a high level of acceptance by surrounding neighborhood groups.

New Mexico Heart Institute has five other locations and 12 additional cardiologists serving the entire state with offices in Los Alamos, Espanola, Santa Fe, Roswell and Farmington.

The new building owner is Heart Office Building, LLC. Developers are Will Browning and Jack Westman. Other participants include Dekker/Parish/Sabatini, architects; Bohannon Houston, Inc., engineers; Bradbury and Stamm, contractors; Heart Hospital of New Mexico, land purchase; Wells Fargo Bank, financing.

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