This past year, new clinics and services were introduced in all Mercy Health Network (MHN) market areas, expanding access to primary and specialized care for Iowans of all ages and enhancing health care in the communities we serve. These investments create opportunities for growth and provide positive economic development.

This week we’re sharing some highlights of projects completed in MHN markets in the last fiscal year. Next week we’ll provide details on projects planned for FY19.

**Investments across Mercy Health Network expand access and services to Iowans**

CLINTON
- Three new Labor, Delivery, Recovery and Postpartum (LDRP) Rooms opened last month at Mercy Clinton. The LDRP rooms, a central nurses station, physician workstation and combined storeroom make up the first phase of the two-phase process to enhance Mercy Clinton’s Birth Center. The first phase is anticipated to be complete in Sept. 2018.

DES MOINES
- A new infusion center at Mercy’s central campus opened in the fall of 2017, expanding the number of patient treatment areas to 17.
- Construction of the new Southwest Parking Deck on Mercy’s central campus was completed in Feb. 2018. This new parking structure added approximately 200 parking spaces for employees.
- Iowa’s first and only freestanding rehabilitation hospital opened in June 2018. The 50-bed hospital is dedicated to the treatment and recovery of individuals who have experienced the debilitating effects of a severe injury or illness.
- Mercy opened a Lung Cancer Clinic in June, offering a multidisciplinary approach to the evaluation and management of lung masses and lung cancer.

IOWA CITY
- In July 2018, Iowa Heart Center (Mercy – Des Moines) integrated with Mercy Iowa City Cardiology to create a premier cardiovascular center named Iowa Heart Center – Iowa City.

SIOUX CITY
- Access to care was expanded in Sioux City with the addition of an Express Care Clinic in Dec. 2017. The clinic, located in an area Hy-Vee store, offers high-quality, integrated care with convenient health care services for the Siouxland community.

WATERLOO
- Covenant Clinic Family Medicine opened in Independence.
- A behavioral health area in the Emergency Department opened this summer.
- A renovation was completed in the Cath Lab at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare. This included installing new equipment, flooring and additional office space.
- Covenant Clinic Arrowhead was renovated.
Francine Brown recognized with DAISY Award

Francine Brown, R.N., is Mercy’s newest DAISY Award recipient. She was honored with the award at a ceremony July 11 in the 9th floor Cardiac Medical Intensive Care Unit, with several of her family members, colleagues and Mercy nursing leadership in attendance. Francine was nominated by the wife of a former patient to recognize the compassionate care she provided to the patient and his family while the patient was hospitalized. The nominator and other family members of the patient were also able to attend the award presentation.

Following is an excerpt from the nomination form: “Francine is an awesome nurse and a wonderful, caring person. I feel if she would not have worked with my husband on eating and drinking, he would have just given up and melted into the bed and not gotten better. Francine stopped in to visit on her day off. She is a very caring person.”

Find out more about the award or submit a nomination at mercy.dm/daisy.

Mercy Colleague Forums celebrate the Iowa State Fair

Enjoy free entertainment, fun and food on a stick during the next Mercy Colleague Forum, Tuesday, August 21!

Mercy President and “Grand Marshal” Karl Keeler will welcome you with an introduction to the newest members of the Mercy leadership team, followed by the exciting unveiling of the latest Performance Culture Assessment (PCA) findings. Before leaving the stage, Keeler will share Mercy’s goals for key results during fiscal year 2019.

Next, Mercy Vice President of Planning and Business Development Sandy Swanson will grace the grandstand to share strategic plan updates, along with the latest on the Master Campus Plan. Mercy leadership team members will also be waiting in the wings, ready to answer your questions.

Sessions will be held in the East Tower Auditorium at 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Event attendees will enjoy midway-inspired refreshments and fun!

To help accommodate Mercy’s many locations and colleagues’ work schedules, a new live online feed will be available, accessible through any device with internet access. Instructions on how to join the meeting via live stream will be shared closer to the event.

In addition, onsite Mercy Colleague Forum sessions are being scheduled at Mercy – West Lakes, Mercy – Centerville and Skiff Medical Center. Watch for more details to come.

Celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Wednesday, Aug. 15, Roman Catholics and other Christian faiths will celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven.

For Catholics, the Assumption is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is a time to celebrate the life of Mary, who became the Mother of God’s son Jesus Christ. Following great prayerful reflection, Pope Pius XII shared that through Mary’s complete devotion to God and Jesus, “having completed the course of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.”

Mass will be offered at 11:30 a.m. in Our Lady of Mercy Chapel at the Mercy central campus and Mercy – West Lakes. The Mass can also be viewed by central campus patients and their families on channel 4. We invite everyone to join in this celebration.