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State Officials Celebrate Grand Re-Opening of Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare

NORTHFIELD – After 10 years of design and planning efforts, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services today celebrated the official opening of a new state-of-the-art patient care facility at Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare (NBH).

“This is a banner day for Ohio’s mental health system,” OhioMHAS Director Tracy Plouck said. “This beautiful building is not just bricks and mortar -- it’s a place where miracles happen; where Ohioans affected by the disease of mental illness can get the help they need to reach their full potential as productive members of society.”

The Department invited the community and its partners to tour the 258-bed facility following a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony. The complex consolidates multiple buildings into a single, cohesive structure designed to promote recovery. In addition to eight new patient units, the facility also features a new admissions area; gymnasium; dietary area and secured courtyards. All told, a little over 200,000 square feet of new space have been added since construction began in July 2013.

In a nod to the hospital’s historic past, the gymnasium was dedicated in honor of Dr. Guy Williams, the hospital’s first superintendent. Dr. Williams served Ohio’s mental health system from 1903-1958. Several family members were on hand to witness the occasion. The ceremony also honored Susan Danko whose creative artwork adorns the halls of the newly-minted facility.

“This is an exciting day for Northeast Ohio and all of us here at Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare,” said hospital CEO Doug Kern. “This new state-of-the-art facility will dramatically improve patient care while having a positive impact on our employees, visitors and community partners. We now have a facility that mirrors the great work our staff do each and every day.”

Work will continue on the hospital campus through next summer as project plans also call for the renovation of the existing McKee building. Planned improvements include: two additional patient units; social learning center for patients; meditation room/chapel; designated courtroom areas; additional office space; classrooms and locker rooms for staff.

NBH serves the clinical psychiatric needs of patients from Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Portage and Summit counties.

About Ohio’s Regional Psychiatric Hospitals

OhioMHAS operates six regional psychiatric hospitals across the state. These specialized facilities provide short-term, intensive treatment to patients in both inpatient and community-supported environments. They also deliver comprehensive care to patients committed by criminal courts. All six hospitals have achieved The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization’s Gold Seal of Approval for providing high quality care and safety.