The Pediatric Emergency Department is designed to provide an engaging, safe environment that eases potentially traumatic experiences for young patients. A series of respite spaces, both active and quiet, provide opportunities to decompress and offer views of the gardens and surrounding community.
This addition creates a safe, calming environment for young patients in traumatic circumstances. The building’s emergency red panels serve as recognizable focal point on the medical campus, while a light-filled atrium accented by wood and warm colors welcomes visitors arriving from the sheltered drop-off zone. Clinical and public spaces employ graphics, art, comfortable furnishings, and inspirational displays to create restorative surroundings.

Advanced medical care is delivered via central care team zones close to patient care areas; glass partitions allow visual connections with acoustical privacy.

Tucked among the existing hospital structures, the design of the exterior creates an easily recognizable destination for patients and families. The prominent Red Lantern is a hallmark on the campus.
The facility serves pediatric patients in 18 new exam rooms. A central care team zone colocates physicians, nurses, and mid-level providers in close proximity to patient care areas. Glass partitions allow direct visual connections into patient areas while maintaining acoustical privacy. The staff zone is designed to accommodate a range of care team sizes, which rise and fall with patient census. Support spaces are located nearby, ensuring immediate access to medical equipment and enhancing efficiency.

Each treatment space is adorned with colorful graphics tailored to appeal to young patients. Medical gases, monitoring equipment, and computers are aligned to minimize clutter, reduce visual stress, and limit the number of “scary things” on the walls. Indirect lighting creates an environment that eases an already stressful situation. The bright color palette in the treatment areas recalls the energy of the “red lantern” and the outdoors beyond.

**KEY SPACE:**

- **Patient Care:** 3,038 NSF
- **Staff Spaces:** 2,526 NSF
- **Waiting & Family:** 2,483 NSF
- **Services:** 1,638 NSF
- **Gallery / Atrium:** 2,043 NSF
From project initiation, the team worked to achieve a set of operational, patient-centered, and community-focused outcomes, as well as an improved net-to-gross benchmark. Collaboration to achieve these outcomes drove the design process, informed each decision along the way, and ensured that clinical workflow and patient well-being drove the new pediatric emergency model.
Integrated sustainability was another early project objective; simple strategies included daylighting, indigenous landscaping and the use of recycled materials. More complex strategies included energy reduction measures such as a heat recovery system that harnesses heat from exhaust air to supplement boilers, and dedicated VFD fans that ramp up or down based on occupancy.

**JURY COMMENT**

▶ In contrast to many new pediatric facilities, this building is child-friendly without being childish. Within the context of the larger medical campus, the striking, red, cantilevered volume of the Emergency Department offers a strong presence that urgently notifies and invites.

▶ Inside, the restrained finish palette coupled with an effective use of colorful graphics creates calming, light-filled interiors for all age groups.

▶ The highpoint of the design, however, may be the views offered from its red perched volume. Here, through expansive walls of glass, young patients and their families are afforded a different perspective of the neighborhood stretched out before them - likely a welcome diversion for those visiting the ED.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Integrated sustainability was another early project objective; simple strategies included daylighting, indigenous landscaping and the use of recycled materials. More complex strategies included energy reduction measures such as a heat recovery system that harnesses heat from exhaust air to supplement boilers, and dedicated VFD fans that ramp up or down based on occupancy.