

Contact: Dana VanMeerhaeghe, Executive Director, 913-895-4799

The American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA) would like to congratulate Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and Griffin Hospital as the recipients of the 2014 Legacy Project Awards. These inaugural awards were presented at the International Summit & Exhibition on Health Facility Planning, Design & Construction (known as the PDC Summit) on March 18, 2014, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Fla.

In an effort to expand the knowledge of great healthcare architecture and to honor those projects whose original innovation was sustained through time, the ACHA developed the Legacy Project Award program. This is the first award that celebrates ideas that continue to endure through a healthcare project's life. While the healthcare design realm has many types and sponsors of healthcare design awards, none of these recognize the endurance of healthcare design innovation as demonstrated by the neutralizing passage of time. The Legacy Project Award honors a place of healing and was the result of the rich exchange of planning and design concepts by qualified master-builder architects engaged by enlightened clients who believed that innovation is first an attitude.

"A legacy is a gift that is passed down from one generation to another. A healthcare building that exhibits high quality designs and encourages high performance functioning with minimal upkeep is a legacy to those who inherit the building," commented Connie S. McFarland, FAIA, FACHA, President of the American College of Healthcare Architects.

A tour of the finalists revealed that Griffin Hospital, located in Derby, Conn., was ahead of its time and, as a result, there have been virtually no changes to the physical plant (North Wing). However, the project submitted was not just about the North Wing, but also a holistic look at all renovations which maintains a consistency throughout the complex with materials and colors. There are no "haves" and "have nots." The hospital pioneered many innovative concepts in design and operation that have become commonplace in today's hospitals with emphasis on the family.

"Griffin represents an extraordinary translation of a culture and philosophy into design. Its legacy is that Griffin successfully demonstrates how a project can directly and positively influence human behavior," commented juror Philip E. Tobey, FAIA, FACHA, Senior Vice President of SmithGroup, JJR.

Jurors concluded that Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC), located in Lebanon, N.H., clearly influenced behaviors of the disparate parts of the enterprise and facilitated an integration of medical school, hospital, clinic and the co-located Veteran's Administration. In the first 10 years, the center experienced a 65 percent increase in surgical cases. Admissions also increased by 40 percent in response to the demographics and the building. During this same period, the national statistics had declined. Its success may be attributed to the executive leadership's philosophy that facilities support the culture of patient focus, not merely capture market share. According to D. Kirk Hamilton, FAIA, FACHA, Professor at Texas A&M University and founding father of the American College of Healthcare Architects, "the legacy of this project is its ability to double the area of the original project (greater than one million square feet), while maintaining the integrity of the original facility principles."

In its inaugural year, the Legacy Project Award was given to two projects.

"We felt that this sends a message that any project can be worthy of this award. We don't want to make a habit of it, but did want to demonstrate that both large and small projects could merit consideration, as well as projects that aged differently could demonstrate lasting impact," added David Allison, FAIA, FACHA, Director of Graduate Studies in Architecture + Health at Clemson University and ACHA juror.

Jennifer Aliber, AIA, ACHA, of Shepley Bulfinch nominated Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for the Legacy Project Award. W. Mason Smith, III is the architect of record, and James N. Weinstein, DO, MS, is its current CEO and President.

William H. Karanian, AIA, ACHA, a principal with The S/L/A/M Collaborative, Inc., nominated Griffin Hospital and is the architect of record. Patrick Charmel is Griffin's President CEO.

The American College of Healthcare Architects provides board certification for architects throughout the United States and Canada who practice as healthcare specialists. Its mission is to distinguish healthcare architects through certification, experience and rigorous standards, and its vision is to transforming healthcare through better built environments.

For more information on the Legacy Project Award or to find a board certified healthcare architect through its Directory, visit the College at www.healtharchitects.org.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS

Rick Adams

Director of External Relations, Communications & Marketing

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

rick.adams@hitchcock.org

Tel 603.653.1910

Cell 603.359.2497

Terri Evans

Communications Manager

Shepley Bulfinch

tevans@shepleybulfinch.com

Tel 857.383.4253

Cell 617.869.2240

Geryl A. Rose, APR, CPSM

Public Relations Consultant

S/L/A/M

Tel 860.659.1010 x 2386

Cell 860.712.6643

rose@slamcoll.com