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Truesdale Clinic unveils new addition

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Fall River — Truesdale Clinic opened a new three-story addition to its 1030 President Ave. facility Wednesday morning, adding space and modern design features to the heavily traveled medical building.

It will accommodate an expanded internal medicine practice and several physician groups moving from the older building to the new space.

“It’s spectacular,” said Truesdale Clinic President Dr. Marvin D. Berman. “We just didn’t have enough space.”

The expansion, an \$8.3 million project, adds 45,800 square feet of examination and office space. It has a separate lobby and two elevators. The older building connects to the addition at the end of the first floor hallway. Parking has also been added.

Truesdale Surgical Associates has moved into the new building and began seeing patients this week. The practice has expanded to six physicians from four.

“It’s light, bright, airy and functional,” said Robert W. Replogle, practice manager, showing off the new exam rooms, office space, check-out areas, and the much-loved lounge. Lunch for some of the staffers was often taken in the records room in the past.

Other groups moving to the new building in spring and early summer are Truesdale Cardiology Associates, Truesdale Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Southcoast Physician Services Inc./ Internal Medicine Division, which will take up the largest space at 9,047 square feet.

The internal medicine division will expand from 12 to 15 physicians from the current practice of seven doctors and will be located on the first floor.

“This is great for the facility and for the citizens of this community,” said Mayor Robert Correia after the official ribbon cutting. The event was also attended by state Rep. Michael Rodrigues, D-Westport, physicians, patients, and local business people, like Citizens-Union Savings Bank officers who provided financing.

The addition was officially started in June of 2008. Studio Troika of Malden was the architectural designer and Murphy and McManus of Needham handled contracting.

The building, while it matches the red brick facade of the older structure, was built to be more environmentally friendly and efficient.

The outside Belgium fiber cement panels are popular in Europe. There is an inch of air space behind them and 2½ inches of soy-based foam insulation behind the space.

Michael Samra of Studio Troika said the outside insulation enables the building to breathe, remain dry and conserve energy. It also allows for wiring and plumbing to be done with less effort.

“It’s very resilient,” Samra said. “It’s extremely energy efficient.”

The older Truesdale facility, built in 1960 and expanded twice in the 1970s, will undergo renovations, Berman said, for its current and future physicians.

The first Truesdale Clinic was located at 151 Rock St. and was dedicated in 1914 by Dr. Philemon Truesdale.

“Truesdale Clinic has been here for 95 years,” said Berman. “We’ve been providing exemplary care to the people of Fall River and southeastern Massachusetts. We’ve been able to deliver this exemplary care because of the wonderful people who work here.”

For more information about Truesdale Clinic, call 508-676-3411 or visit www.truesdaleclinic.com.

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