

LSU Interim Hospital Behavioral Health November 9, 2007, Update

LSU Behavioral Health Unit at DePaul

The LSU Board of Supervisors approved on May 31, 2007, the LSU lease of one building, the Seaton Building, on the DePaul campus.

LSU Interim Hospital is using the building for inpatient and outpatient mental health services.

It now has 19 staffed inpatient mental health beds and will expand to 28 as more staff are hired.

The cost to renovate the building was \$75,000.

The lease, which LSU signed on July 15, 2007, is for 5 years and is locked in at \$910,000 a year with a five-year option to renew.

LSU will not establish a permanent facility in this building nor on this campus.

No crisis intervention unit will be in this building.

The building has appropriate security to ensure public and patient safety.

Mental Health Emergency Room Expansion (MHERE)

The first MHERE unit arrived June 30, 2007, at the LSU Interim Hospital. The second unit, ordered August 8, will arrive in mid-November.

These are not CIUs. Regulatory and space limitations prohibit the creation of a CIU at LSU Interim Hospital.

Site preparation has begun for both and should be complete by December 1, 2007.

The hospital Emergency Department will continue to offer medical evaluation, stabilization and clearance.

Police “drop and go” of patients is not yet in place, but should be once MHEREs are in operation and security staffing is available.

LSU Interim Hospital provides on-site psychiatric physician and nursing coverage 24/7, and social work coverage for development of discharge plans between 8 AM and 8 PM.

MHSD has opened a partial hospitalization program that will reserve some beds for LSU Interim Hospital patients.

When a patient requires inpatient services, the patient will be transported to the inpatient unit on the DePaul campus.

LSU Interim Hospital Detoxification Unit

The hospital opened a 20-bed detox unit June 22, 2007.

It now has 18 staffed beds available for occupancy.

It will add beds as staff are hired.

The unit provides acute medical and nursing care to the adult male or female patient, 18 years of age or older, who needs withdrawal from opiates, alcohol, and/or sedative hypnotics.

The unit can treat patients in acute and sub-acute phases of withdrawal.

Admission is voluntary, but must be through a parish substance abuse center.

The unit has multidisciplinary care and staff, including physicians, RNs and LPNs, pharmacists, social workers and pastoral, respiratory, laboratory, and cardiology practitioners.

The case management staff will provide assistance with referrals and placement for ongoing care in a rehabilitation setting.