



SILVER CROSS HOSPITAL - NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY

CLIENT Silver Cross Hospital | **LOCATION** New Lenox, Illinois | **SIZE** 12,600 sf

PROJECT SCOPE

Silver Cross Hospital (SCH) retained Eckenhoff Saunders (ESA) to design a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) on Level 3 of their new CVOR addition (also developed by ESA). The program consisted of (24) private NICU bays, support spaces such as care centers, utility rooms, a central feeding prep room, and family spaces such as a lounge, consult rooms and transition space.

ESA split the (24) bays into four “neighborhoods” of six bays each. Each neighborhood was designed around a seasonal theme (summer, fall, winter, spring) using subtle elements such as accent colors and imagery. Two main care centers and workrooms are located strategically between two neighborhoods that service the unit. In addition, ESA incorporated a central feeding prep room to provide nourishment for each patient’s specific needs.

ESA designed the unit using soft and warm tones and finishes to create a calming environment for families encountering stress and unease with a newborn. The design team also created several spaces, such as a family lounge and seating niches, allowing families to step away when needed. Another family-oriented feature is the incorporation of a family transition room. The space enables new parents to stay overnight while having SCH staff available for monitoring before checking out.