



FAQ: Changes for Senior Services

There has been strong interest in our Long Term Care Center as NH+C leaders explore options for senior services as community needs for senior care evolve.

We are pursuing options to expand the spectrum of care in the Northfield area, offering more choices for care to suit individual needs.

Has a decision been made regarding the Long Term Care Center?

Yes. NH+C's Board of Directors has decided to keep operating the Long Term Care Center and work with others to provide independent, assisted living, and memory care services.

What is the plan?

The Long Term Care Center will remain in place as it is, and evolve in the future.

A facility with assisted living and memory care may be constructed next to the hospital campus.

Why are you pursuing options beyond the Long Term Care Center?

With any service, we seek to understand what the demand will be for services now and in the future. In Minnesota, like the rest of the nation, we continue to see a lowering demand for traditional nursing home services and an increase for other services such as assisted living and memory care. For our community, the information we have shows a decreasing need for traditional skilled nursing beds, and a significant increased need for other options: Assisted living, memory care, independent living, and enhanced care.

What would a new facility involve?

The model we're pursuing would provide:

- Memory care
- Assisted living
- Independent living

(continued)

What would a new facility involve? (continued)

This model may involve construction of new senior care facilities to the west of the hospital campus. If the project progresses, we might be able to begin construction in 2018 and finish in 2019.

We're working with three potential partners:

- Yanik Companies – a developer that would own the new facilities
- Benedictine Health System – to provide the care services
- St. Olaf – the land owner

How is this good for the community?

Across the U.S., senior care continues to evolve as more people choose to “age in place,” and many choose to stay longer in their homes with in-home services for their medical (and non-medical) needs. There's been a tremendous rise in assisted living services, and less need for traditional nursing home care – so more options are now available for seniors.

Our research shows that Northfield needs significantly more assisted living units along with more memory care beds.

Why do this now?

Several trends make planning for the future crucial, with significant changes in:

- Northfield's population (“the #1 place to retire in the U.S.”)
- the U.S. healthcare system
- seniors' needs and wants for their care

As trends in senior care shift to more services provided in more homelike settings, we want to be ready to provide the services seniors need and want. It takes time to plan for such changes.

What happens next?

We will continue to work with Yanik, Benedictine Health System, St. Olaf and the City to determine if a new facility could work on the hospital campus. We will provide updates as decisions are made.

Do you have questions or concerns of your own? Please feel welcome to contact us directly:

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