

Dear Birthing Center Family,

Thank you for choosing Meriter Hospital for your baby's birth. Our goal is to make your stay exceptional and your birth experience one you will always fondly remember.

Based on feedback from patient focus groups and a consulting firm, we are in the final phase of our Birthing Center renovation project. The 5th floor of the new Meriter Family Care Center will open on May 21st with the following enhancements:

- 24 private rooms with private bathroom and shower
- Family sleep space
- Home-style décor
- Expanded monitoring capabilities so babies and moms can stay together
- Enhanced infant security including a locked unit and umbilical tag monitors
- Washer and dryer for long-term antepartum patients who are hospitalized for extended stay

Mothers who have delivered and those mothers who need extra monitoring or care during their pregnancy will be admitted to the Family Care Center on either the 5th or 6th floors.

Our renovation began in 2010 along with a change in our model of care. All of our families start their journey on the labor and delivery unit. Once delivered, and following the recovery period, the family moves to a private room on either the 5th floor or 3rd floor. Room accommodations do not differ depending on your type of delivery. The final phase of our renovation will be complete in 2013, when the 6th floor Family Care unit is completed.

A new Intermediate Care Nursery will also open in 2012. This space will provide transitional care for those babies who need extra support immediately after delivery. It will also provide nursing care to babies who require additional observation or care as they "step down" from the Newborn Intensive Care Unit.

We are committed to providing the same individualized care that you have come to expect from the Birthing Center. We ask for your patience as we go through our renovation process. We promise to make every effort to make your stay as comfortable and private as possible for the birth and post-delivery experience of your choice.

We remain committed to family-centered care and can assure you that our primary goal is to provide a quality and caring birth experience. If you find that we are not living up to your expectations in any way, please contact your nurse or a member of the nursing management team of the Birthing Center.

Patty Abraham, RN
Nurse Manager

Janice McIntosh, RN
Nurse Manager

Kathy Kostrivas, RN
Assistant Vice President