

For Immediate Release
January 20, 2011

For more information contact:
William W. Heun
Matthei & Colin Associates
1-312-939-4002
williamh@mca-architecture.com

Innovative Upgrades to Advocate Christ Medical Center Medical/Surgical Step-Down Unit

Chicago, IL—Four key drivers prompted changes in the medical/surgical unit at [Advocate Christ Medical Center](#)—more privacy, continuity of care, adding innovative technology, and using green sustainable solutions. These goals were met by [Matthei & Colin Associates \(M&CA\)](#), a healthcare planning and architectural design firm, for the hospital's seventeen-bed unit. The unit's design provides more privacy for the patient and the integrated technology in the design creates a very responsive environment.

"These patients need more attention than a typical medical/surgical patient, but not at ICU levels, and we were able to work with the clinical staff to design solutions that permit a higher level of attention for the patients and optimize care," said William W. Heun, AIA, partner at [Matthei & Colin Associates](#), who has been closely working with Christ Medical Center for over twenty years.

Today's competitive market prompted upgrades that include support for the phased implementation of the digital medical record system, in-room computers, new HVAC with digital controls, and a blood gas laboratory on the floor. Infrastructure was previously installed to allow the modular conversion of areas to updated systems when major renovations are undertaken. These innovations fully support Advocate Health Care's objectives to think and build green.

[Advocate Health Care](#) is recognized as one of the nation's top 10 health systems and the largest integrated health care system in Illinois. Advocate has the largest physician network of primary care physicians, specialists, and sub-specialists in the state. Advocate Christ Medical Center is one of the health care system's three teaching hospitals and earned Magnet Recognition from the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC). Magnet status represents hospital-wide teamwork and dedication to creating a positive environment.

Since 1974, [Matthei & Colin Associates\(M&CA\)](#) specializes in planning and design of healthcare environments. M&CA's architectural services are focused on healthcare and bring an unparalleled depth of experience to every project. Their mission is to deliver imaginative solutions that address both facilities and operational criteria, maximizing staffing, and functional efficiency. Visit their website at www.mca-architecture.com.

###