CATEGORY
NEW CONSTRUCTION - PROJECT COST GREATER THAN $1M

PROJECT TYPE
PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITY

PROJECT ADDRESS
806 JACKSON ST.
COLUMBUS, IN 47201

COMPLETION
JULY 2016
The Cummins LiveWell Center in downtown Columbus, Ind., was developed out of a desire to do more than treat the sick. The center’s intent is to do more than provide outstanding health care; instead, it aims to promote healthy living every day. Cummins tasked the design team to go above and beyond a typical doctor’s office and forgo the limitations associated with traditional spaces.

The 28,000 square-foot employee wellness center houses pediatrics, general medicine, physical therapy, massage therapy, and behavioral health all under one roof. The center also offers health and wellness programs through a teaching kitchen and multi-purpose room.

In addition to providing outstanding primary care, the center had to fit into the character of Cummins’ existing downtown campus, where the precedents for quality design include work by the likes of Cesar Pelli, Eero Saarinen, and Kevin Roche.

The design changes the way health care services are offered in an effort to provide better outcomes. Everything - from the way staff greets patients in the lobby, to the check out and scheduling procedures within the exam rooms - was designed with patient experience in mind. The center is a place where Cummins employees and their families can come to get well, stay well, and embrace healthy living. The center offers more than the traditional range of health care services, providing quality of life services such as acupuncture, massage therapy, and cooking classes to help support healthy choices.

The shape of the building forms a series of courtyards, providing natural light and views to outside from as many spaces as possible. Inside, the practice areas are grouped around medical bullpens where physicians can converse and collaborate. Throughout the wellness center, artwork, color, and texture define practice areas of the center. Wood accents in the halls provide a backdrop for artwork curated specifically for the center from local and Indiana artists. Art rails integrated throughout the entire center create a gallery feel for rotating artwork throughout the seasons.

Color accents on the doors, furniture, and casework correspond to areas of practice, providing wayfinding, as well as a unique feel in each area. Custom, white concrete floors are divided by bright carpet ‘rugs’ and wood flooring, while 16’-tall glass curtainwall floods the center with natural light. Open spaces provide a comfortable setting for patients to learn about lifestyle choices. The LiveWell Center is an effort to improve health outcomes by addressing the root cause of illness. It’s a space designed to provide patient-centered, preventative care.
Columbus’ rich architectural context was pertinent to the exterior design. Building height and proportion were particularly important considering the horizontally emphasized street elevation.
All rainwater from the building and paving is contained on site. Two stormwater planters capture rain water from the parking lot, and native plantings create a vibrant, lush, and efficient landscaped environment.
Custom textured glass was used to provide both patient and employee privacy without sacrificing natural light. The exteriors minimal palette includes glass, metal and a matte white, raked textured terra cotta that complements the extensive use of concrete panels on the Cummins Corporate Headquarters across the street.
The building’s shape organizes rooms around physician bullpens and provides each area with views of nature. Physicians filter up from work and break areas to the south, while patients and guests filter down from waiting and respite areas to the north.
Columbus has strict requirements, and fees, related to stormwater collection and treatment. 100% of the water from the roof and parking lot is collected and treated in three large rain gardens before naturally percolating, adding zero load to the existing stormwater infrastructure.
The lobby serves as a place for patients and guests to be greeted and welcomed because all check out, scheduling, and payment is done within the exam rooms. The lobby also serves after-hours functions, providing access to the teaching kitchen and multi-purpose room.
The teaching kitchen features views to the courtyard and to the Kevin Roche-designed Cummins Corporate Headquarters beyond. The residential feel is meant to take the intimidation out of cooking and is just one aspect of the center that places emphasis on patient wellness and well-being.
The corridors are color coded by primary function. Areas of practice, such as general and pediatric medicine, supplementary services, and occupational and physical medicine have unique wood, tile, paint and casework accents.
In the primary patient corridor, inset carpet 'rugs' divide the custom concrete floors. Wood walls warm the space, provide a natural element, and act as a backdrop for art curated from local and Indiana artists.
EXAM ROOMS

The exams rooms are the result of a two-day charrette where each room type was recreated in tape on the floor. All aspects - from doors and casework, to consult areas and exam tables - were planned with patient comfort and physician efficiency in mind.
EXAM ROOM

Each exam room contains digital displays for vitals and patient health information. The consult area provides the physician and patient with a place to review information on an even level.

Cummins LiveWell Center™
EXAM ROOM
The multi-purpose room provides numerous lifestyle and wellness services to Cummins’ employees. Yoga and Zumba, as well as employee health and wellness classes and seminars, will put the focus on disease prevention and healthy living.
NORTH CORRIDOR FACADE / RAIN GARDEN

The expansive glazing surrounding rain gardens and natively planted courtyards floods the building with light, creating a gallery like setting that Cummins’ employees can come to, not for treatment when sick, but for a place to continue to live well.