

Monroe Avenue construction project updated

By Alison Clemett, Service Development Manager, Project Manager for the Emergency Shelter Clinic, Hillside Family of Agencies

Editor's Note: The following article is the second in a two-part series. The first article appeared in the October 29 issue of the Communicator.

Once LeChase Construction was selected to build the Emergency Shelter Clinic, weekly meetings began with Hillside Family of Agencies (HFA) Project Manager Alison Clemett, HFA Director of Properties Don Lennox, HFA Facilities Manager Tom Hartman, HFA Consultant John Caselli, Architect Project Manager Jeff Fuller, and Construction Project Manager Ray LeChase, Jr. Monthly updates and specific decision making takes place via the Building Committee. This Committee is chaired by Board Member Louise Klinke and has board representation of 12 other members in addition to HFA President and CEO Dennis Richardson.

In addition to weekly construction meetings, other meetings are continually coordinated with some of our external contractors: RG&E regarding gas relocation; Frontier regarding internet and phone lines; the City of Rochester regarding approvals for parking and plumbing requirements. Internal agency coordination is also paramount. Communication and review of ongoing issues has occurred with Facilities, Service Integration, Purchasing, Information Technology, Risk Management, and many others. All departments have been extremely responsive in reviewing a variety of issues.

Currently, our largest construction concern is to enclose the new building before it begins snowing. This would result in continuing construction throughout the winter. However, because we cannot control the weather, this may not be possible. If we are unable to enclose the building, it will be protected from the elements as much as possible, and we will open the job again in the spring. Our completion date for the shelter clinic is July 30, 2002. As of today, we are right on schedule with the project!

Preliminary meetings are beginning with DSS in Monroe County, Emergency Services staff, Acting Collective Resource Leader Mike Doran, Consultancy Leader Susan Price, and Service Development to review Hillside's current emergency services system and look at the opportunities for improvement in our delivery of care.

What's next? Don Lennox, Director of Property Services, has already begun meetings to discuss renovation of the cottages on the Monroe Avenue Campus with the hopes of beginning construction in spring 2002.

I would like to thank all staff for their continued patience with the parking situation. Special thanks goes to Don Lennox and Tom Hartman for their continued efforts and support. Thanks to the staff and parent that have continued to participate in the user groups. I am especially thankful to Dennis Richardson for providing an environment at Hillside that allows a large project, such as the Hillside Emergency Shelter Clinic, the opportunity for success.