



Kayenta Health Center

The Kayenta Health center is located on the Navajo Nation, in Kayenta, AZ, near the Four Corners region. The facility is a 2 story, 182,000 square foot facility with a small (10 bed) nursing unit, and is primarily focused on outpatient care, with the following departments:

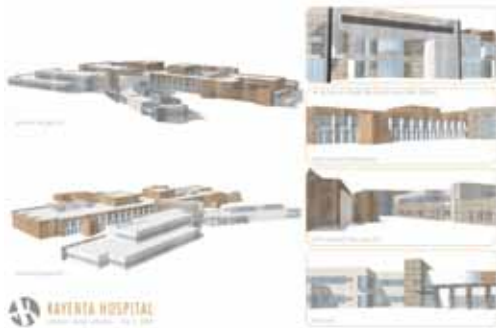
- Ten patient beds
- Three birthing beds
- Emergency department
- 30 dental chairs
- 36 primary care exam rooms
- Ambulatory surgery suite
- Diagnostic imaging
- Pharmacy with drive through
- Behavioral health
- Physical therapy
- Community outreach and Wellness

The design for the building emphasizes a sensitive response to the site which offers outstanding views at the edge of Monument Valley, a rigorous reflection of the building's programmatic requirements, and an integration of the cultural context, both of the Navajo (Diné) culture, as well as the operational culture and values of the staff and administration of the existing facility that will be replaced.

The evolution of the building design through the Schematic Design Phase strives to be consistent with the primary driving principles established during the Conceptual Design Phase-address and integrate Program, Site, and Culture. Specific strategies employed include the following features:

- clarity in reflecting functional needs and zones |
- response to climate by building orientation to mitigate sun and wind
- daylighting and views
- connection to the outdoors
- cultural values of the Diné people
- contextual response to the unique and powerful landscape

The main building entrance and central lobby form the heart of the building to provide a strong sense of place and arrival while also functionally connecting the wings of the building. The primary organizing element is the circular lobby which opens to the north view of the Kayenta "skyline." The east-west "bar" formally connects the lobby with the main clinical wing and contains vertical circulation bridge to the Administration area on the second floor of the Community Health wing. The "bar" also provides shade from the southern sun to the main lobby space.



The patient drop-off drive is tucked in as close to the main entrance as possible allowing visitors to flow directly through the lobby to the “wellness” wings on the north and south, or onward to the main clinical wing to the west. The main stair in the “bar” occupies a prominent position that invites and encourages visitors to take a bit of exercise on their way up to the clinical areas on the second floor.

The circular form of the lobby reflects the cultural sensibility of the local area and affords spectacular views to the north and south. Where the space is not carved away for glazing, there will be opportunities for murals and display of artwork. The perimeter walls of the circular lobby will be washed with daylight from above by a continuous clerestory at the ceiling.

The main north-south clinical wing of the building is organized to reflect the dual nature of public functions on the east and service functions on the west. Along the east facing circulation spine are nearly continuous daylighting, views, and physical connections to the exterior courtyards that become an extension of the waiting and public areas.

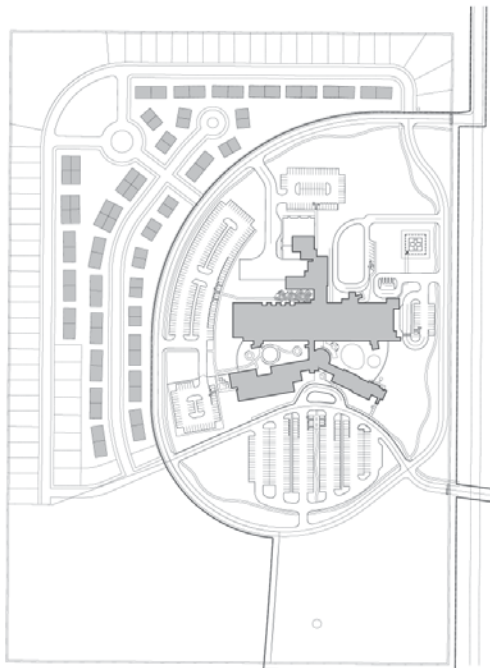
The second floor public circulation is set back from the floor below, protected from the sun by the overhanging roof above and a “lattice” system composed of the jacketed structural columns at the perimeter and additional non-structural intermediates.

The west side of the building affords daylighting and views through openings protected from the southwestern sun - one of the key climactic challenges in this region.

The overall strategy for the building skin in this main wing is to let the fenestration reflect the internal functional needs of each space with no attempt to superimpose an overall formal organizational system on the envelope. This wing is clad in stucco which supports a flexible approach to openings, as well as being an economical system for the single largest portion of the facility. The resulting formal expression for this main wing of the facility provides a strong visual anchor to the land and the site.

Stair towers, elevators, and other ancillary functions are clustered together to create massings in support of the main wing analogous to the local geology--outcroppings of rock tucked up against larger formations.

Consistent with the higher public profile of the main entrance and the prominence of the functions within, the architectural concept for the physical therapy and wellness and community health wings, in contrast to the main clinical wing, is to utilize a rain-screen modular panel cladding system that will set these areas apart from



the rest of the building. This system provides fenestration that emphasizes horizontality for a more approachable, human scale, and allows the glazing to organize into continuous ribbons reflecting the relatively homogenous nature of the office functions inside. The continuous ribbon glazing also maximizes daylighting, an important sustainable design strategy.

Clerestory monitors bring daylight from the east into the high volume Physical Therapy and Wellness gymnasium spaces. The sloping roofs over these areas introduce a form and material which is echoed on other parts of the facility where daylighting is desired.

The courtyard side (west) of each wing is clad in masonry veneer to create a more human scale, a nuanced texture within the courtyard space, and to give some depth to the wall where shading from the western sun is desirable.

The service wing embodies a straightforward approach to meeting the needs of the internal functions. Masonry veneer at the north wall which fronts onto the Ambulatory Surgery and Pharmacy drive creates an attractive appearance at this public zone and enhanced durability around the loading dock on the south side.

Location: Kayenta, AZ

Size: 182,000sf

Completion: 2010

ALBUQUERQUE

7601 Jefferson NE, Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM 87109
505.761.9700 tel - 505.761.4222 fax

LAS VEGAS

6860 Bermuda Drive, Suite 100
Las Vegas, NV 89119
702.436.1006 tel - 702.436.1050 fax

AMARILLO

500 S. Taylor, Suite 750
Amarillo, TX 79101
806.376.8199 tel - 806.376.8189 fax