



DAY CARE CENTER MT. ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

Lewiston, New York

Owner / Client: Mount St. Mary's Hospital

Area: 4,000 square feet

Cost: \$ 400,000

Children's environmental research demonstrates that children need a homelike and comfortable physical environment yet very few childcare centers are designed to imitate homelike features. Rather, the trend in child care facility design has been to create large, unattractive institutional buildings that have little in common with the design of the child's home and home culture.

Using the latest research as the basis for this 2002 project's design, TRM and Mount St. Mary's collaborated to create an appropriate physical environment for child care, as well as facilitate respective program goals, curriculum, group size, teacher ratios, equipment & furniture, staff needs, parent needs, and cultural sensitivity.

Located on the campus of Mount Saint Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, New York, this new free-standing day care facility was designed to meet the primary needs of the nursing staff affiliated with the hospital. The building was given a suburban residential character blending in well with the tree-lined natural setting. This concept was chosen not only for aesthetic reasons, but also to create an environment that would instill comfort and familiarity with the children.

One of key features involved in the design of child care centers is the integration natural and artificial light. The type and amount of light used positively impacts on the children's behavior and learning, as well as on the teachers' and staff well-being.



“TRM answered our architectural and planning problems while being politically astute and sensitive to all of our needs.”

*James S. Taylor V.P. Environmental Support Services,
Mount St. Mary's Hospital*

