



HEALTH CARE

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THEN AND NOW

Cobalt Medical Development starts work on Surprise facility

It's been about a year since I last spoke with Richard Fiske, CEO of Dallas-based Cobalt Medical Development, about his proposed 40-bed rehabilitation center in Surprise.

Now that the company has broken ground on the \$17.5 million project, plans call for opening it about this time next year. It is expected to create more than 140 jobs.

This will be the second facility of its kind in the nation, following an opening in Overland Park, Kansas. Others in Houston and New Orleans are set to open in the next few months.

"Then we've got another eight in our pipeline," Fiske said. "We're looking at virtually every state."

The facility will spur some other development in the area. Tom Weinhold, managing director and health care specialist for Cassidy Turley in Phoenix, is leasing two 30,000-square-foot medical office buildings planned on the campus.

Fiske said he is open to various uses for those properties, from traditional medical



RENDERING PROVIDED BY COBALT MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT

The Cobalt Rehabilitation Hospital is set for completion near the end of 2015.

space for neurologists and other specialists to a freestanding emergency department or urgent care center.

"Our feeling is, the people we take care of aren't sick; they're broken," he said. "Rather than treating them like they're sick, let's treat them like they're broken and help them heal, giving them a warm and friendly environment to stay in."

Of the 40 beds, 28 will be dedicated to

general rehabilitation for patients suffering from stroke, amputation or implants. Patients would stay 12-14 days to help them recover.

The other 12 rooms will be dedicated to patients with traumatic brain injury, concussions and Parkinson's disease. Usually, those patients require a 60- to 90-day stay.

Those 12 rooms will have mini living rooms, giving patients more room to

► CLOSER LOOK

Cobalt Rehabilitation Hospital

Owner: Cobalt Medical Development

Beds: 40

Square feet: 55,000

Development cost: \$17.5 million

Financing: Mutual of Omaha Bank

Architect: Ascension

Leasing agent: Cassidy Turley

General contractor: Balfour Beatty plc

Hiring: 140

Opening: December 2015

Then: bizj.us/tq5g5

move around so they're not confined to beds day and night.

Rehab patients also will be encouraged to go down to the dining room for meals rather than being served in their beds, Fiske said.

"They can sit down with all the other patients and enjoy a meal together," he said. "We treat that dining experience like it's a therapy — a social therapy."

The national law firm of **Quarles & Brady** is proud to announce the opening of our new Scottsdale office and welcomes trust & estates partner **Matthew S. Dana**, formerly of the Dana Law Firm, to our Phoenix office, as well as associates **Trevor Whiting** and **Todd Smith** — also from the Dana Law Firm — to our Phoenix and Scottsdale offices, respectively.

The new Scottsdale office is located at:

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