



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CHRISTUS ST. CATHERINE HOSPITAL ANNOUNCES EXPANSION**

*Katy-area hospital allocates \$45 million to meet community's needs*

HOUSTON (Jan. 24, 2005) – In response to the Katy and West Houston area's continuously growing population, CHRISTUS St. Catherine Hospital has designated \$45 million for expansion to meet community needs and offer additional healthcare options. The expansion will be completed by spring 2007.

The expansion will focus on increasing the hospital's outpatient services, including radiology and emergency services, while exploring other possibilities such as cancer treatment and cardiology. The plan includes expanding from 60 up to 100 beds, and increasing the number of ICU beds. Almost 50,000 square feet of new space will allow additional capacity for inpatient beds, women's services, and all associated support services, such as laboratory and emergency care. The hospital also will have the ability to add another 72 beds, should the need arise, bringing the total to 174.

"With such tremendous growth in the area, we believe it is important to expand our services in order to not only meet the current needs of the community, but to plan for the future as well," said Sheila Fata, administrator for CHRISTUS St. Catherine Hospital. "Since our opening in March 2000, we have seen an average of 200 percent increase in our volumes each year. The Katy and West Houston population is projected to increase more than 16 percent in the next five years. With this current expansion, we will be prepared to expand further when more needs arise."

The Houston healthcare practice of Perkins + Will was chosen to design the expansion, and will be led by Principal in Charge Greg Hughes, AIA, ACHA. Dennis Irvine of Irvine Team, a national design and construction strategy and project management firm, is the regional project management partner with CHRISTUS Health Gulf Coast. Irvine said, "Perkins + Will has demonstrated specialty expertise in designing nursing units, emergency departments and other clinical areas. We anticipate their innovative ideas for advanced patient care."

"This is the first phase of the overall building expansion plan for CHRISTUS St. Catherine Hospital," Hughes said. "We also will investigate new models of healthcare delivery that could be applied to other CHRISTUS Health campuses in the future."

CHRISTUS St. Catherine Hospital is currently building an 80,000-square-foot medical office building and outpatient surgery center on its campus, with completion anticipated in June 2005. The \$45 million expansion is the hospital's largest undertaking since its opening in March 2000.

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CHRISTUS Health Gulf Coast CEO and President Patrick Carrier added, “CHRISTUS Health is committed to meeting the healthcare needs of Katy and West Houston, providing state-of-the-art healthcare services to its residents and becoming a vital part of the community. We have delivered healthcare to the Greater Houston area for more than 136 years and look forward to being the hospital of choice while continuing to serve our mission.”

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*CHRISTUS St. Catherine Hospital is part of CHRISTUS Health, a faith-based health system that is jointly sponsored by the Congregations of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in Houston and the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. The Gulf Coast Region is also home to CHRISTUS St. Joseph Hospital in downtown Houston and CHRISTUS St. John Hospital in Nassau Bay, both owned and operated by CHRISTUS Health. A dynamic and diversified organization, CHRISTUS Health has as its mission to extend the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. For more information, visit the hospital's Web site at [www.christusstcatherine.org](http://www.christusstcatherine.org).*

*Perkins + Will was founded in 1935 and now includes more than 700 employees in 14 offices worldwide. In healthcare, the firm delivers professional services ranging from planning and design for large, complex medical/surgical facilities and academic medical campuses to less complex outpatient sites. The Houston-based Perkins + Will design team will include architect Bryan Jones, project manager; Victor Liu, lead designer; Phil Chisholm, lead planner; and interior design studio director Paul Chappell.*

*Houston-based Irvine Team applies its design and construction strategies to integrate the owners' expectations, goals and budgets with the architectural design and construction processes. Irvine Team has been instrumental in design and construction of projects with budgets collectively totaling more than \$3 billion and encompassing approximately 42 million square feet.*