

Project Case Study:

Hampstead Hospital



Project Name

Hampstead Hospital

Project Location

Hampstead, NH

Building Type

Behavioral Health Care

Project Team

Hampstead Hospital

Norix Group, Inc.

Product List

Hondo Nuevo[®] Lounge Seating

Forté[™] Guest Chair

Forté[™] Cafe Table

Sierra Lounge Seating

Max Master[®] Table

Attenda[®] Bed

CASE STUDY

DESCRIPTION:

Located in Hampstead, NH and built in 1974, Hampstead Hospital was the first private psychiatric hospital licensed by New Hampshire, according to its website. The hospital – a 111-bed private specialty facility – serves the psychiatric and chemical dependency needs for New England area patients and their loved ones. The hospital is located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and sits on 100 acres of woodlands and landscaped grounds.

The facility provides patients with child and adolescent psychiatric services, adult psychiatric and developmental disorder services and drug and alcohol addiction services. The hospital's mission is to provide "patients and families with effective treatment in a safe and caring environment" and "considers high quality behavioral health services in a safe environment to be our top priority."

According to Developmental Disorders Services Clinical Director Kacie Melo, LICSW, the patients' ages and needs vary greatly from unit to unit and can include such diagnoses as bipolar disorder, psychotic disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, autism, mood disorder, intermittent explosive disorder and mental retardation.

OVERALL PROJECT GOAL / PHILOSOPHY

In 2014, Hampstead Hospital began renovation of its Washington Unit which serves adolescents and young adults with developmental disabilities. Areas in the renovation included patient bedrooms, day areas, activity rooms, family rooms and dining areas.

Selecting furniture that provided a sense of home and that came equipped with safety and security features was imperative to the facility. The hospital also wanted products that fit in with the new look and feel of the renovation.

Aesthetic Goals – Since Hampstead was redesigning the entire unit, the facility needed furniture that came in a variety of hues that fit in with the color scheme of the paint on the walls, the tile on the floors and other fixtures throughout the unit. They also needed furniture that came in colors and designs that differed from typical behavioral health care furniture.



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Functional Goals – Hampstead also needed furniture that was configurable and multi-functional. They wanted chairs that could be used while watching TV at certain points in the day, then be moved to other areas for alternate uses. They also wanted cubes that could be used as either seating or tables and that could be moved around as needed as well.

Safety and Security Goals – Like other behavioral health care facilities, Hampstead required extremely durable furniture. It was imperative that the products were heavy, came equipped with a ballasting option or that could be bolted to the floor so the furniture could not be easily moved or picked up. They also needed furniture that could not be pulled apart or easily broken and that was easy to clean for infection control.

“Patients’ ages and needs vary greatly from unit to unit,” Melo said. “Many of the patients in our Developmental Disabilities Unit sometimes demonstrate behavior that is impulsive, aggressive, self-injurious and sometimes there is significant property destruction. We wanted furniture that could not be thrown or damaged by our patients, as well as products that could be easily cleaned and that were highly durable.”



SELECTION PROCESS

This is not the first time Hampstead Hospital has purchased and worked with Norix furniture. In 2012, the facility purchased Norix Furniture’s original Hondo chairs and cubes, Max Master tables, Attenda beds and Integra and Ultra-Max chairs and other products.

“We had previously used Norix Furniture when we renovated the Pierce Unit,” Melo said. “We were highly satisfied with the durability and quality of the furniture and felt it would be equally beneficial on our other developmental disabilities unit that we were renovating.”

When the time came to update the Washington Unit in 2014, the facility called consultative sales representative Bob Howell who supplied them with samples and literature of Norix Furniture, including the new Hondo Nuevo® seating series and Remedy Sealed Seam Mattress series – products that provide uncommon durability and pleasing aesthetics for behavioral healthcare facilities.

“They really liked the options that come with the Hondo Nuevo® series. They liked the colors, the configurability and the fact that it included chairs, wedges and cubes,” Howell said. “They also really liked the Norix Forté™ series and the upholstery option which helps give facilities like Hampstead a residential feel.”

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THE RESULTS:

In the summer of 2014, the Washington Unit renovation was completed and patients began using the facility. The hospital chose a wide selection of Norix Furniture including Attenda® patient beds, Forté™ and Hondo Nuevo® Lounge Furniture, Sierra Series loveseats and couches, the new Remedy Series of mattresses and pillows, among other products.

The Norix colors – including Lagoon, River Rock and Pine Cone from our Naturals Palette – paired well with the brown, blue, green and tan hues the facility chose to use on their walls and floors throughout the unit, giving the rooms a normalized and residential feel, without sacrificing the safety and security that is tied to the hospital's mission.

"We chose Norix products due to their durability, quality of materials and the fact that it can be easily cleaned and sanitized. We also chose them for the overall safety for the patients and the staff," Melo said. "Due to the population of patients we serve and the behaviors they can display, the Norix furniture was able to meet all of our safety standards and needs."



ABOUT NORIX:

Norix designs innovative, robust furniture that meets the real-world need for humanizing challenging environments. For more than 30 years, the company has served the behavioral healthcare, corrections, higher education, fire/rescue, military, shelter, public safety and variety of commercial industries by providing uniquely reliable furnishings for every application. All furniture is designed for safety, security and extreme durability. Norix furniture is extraordinary by design, surpassing industry standards for strength, safety and long-term performance. Aside from its durability, Norix products also come in aesthetically pleasing designs and colors and are made especially for facilities that require furniture that can humanize their environments. The privately held company is headquartered in West Chicago, IL with consultative sales representatives and dealers throughout the U.S. In 2012, Norix launched Safe Environments, a news and information blog serving architects, designers, administrators and facility managers involved in the design, construction, and operation of challenging environments. For more information, call 800-234-4900 or visit www.norix.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Hampstead Hospital - <http://www.hampsteadhospital.com>

Norix Behavioral Health Care Products - <http://www.norix.com/behavioral-healthcare-furniture.asp>

