

# Family Birth Center at Mercy Medical Center



A lot can change in 10 years. Models of care, equipment, and aesthetics have all changed significantly since we moved into the new Mercy Medical Center. However, the one thing that has not changed over the past decade is our dedication to providing mothers and their babies with outstanding, comprehensive maternity services.

Our caregivers have built one of the safest obstetrical, gynecological, and infant service lines in the Central Valley. By upgrading our facility while adhering to current best practices, we will ensure the highest levels of patient safety and quality of care.

We strive to ensure that all expectant mothers receive culturally-competent care that is sensitive to the values and customs of the parent's ethnicity, religion, and birthing preferences. Patients are empowered to make their own choices during the birthing process, as long as those choices do not have a negative impact on the life or health of the mother or baby.

It is important that new mothers and their families welcome their babies into the world in a warm, comforting, and calm environment. We believe that our physicians, staff, and patients deserve the best possible environment to ensure a special, memorable, and healing experience.

The Mercy Foundation's goal is to elevate the environment of care within the Family Birth Center to match the outstanding quality of care our team delivers every day.

## Bosts & Brags

- Nearly 3,000 babies are delivered by our team per year.
- 9 private labor & delivery rooms, 18 postpartum rooms, and 2 dedicated operating rooms are located within the FBC.
- Valley Children's NICU, located within the FBC, is a Level II nursery with specialized staff dedicated to taking care of babies who require advanced medical care.
- Postpartum "rooming-in," allows baby to stay in the room with mom as much as possible; assessments and physician visits occur in-room also.
- Our *baby-friendly* designation encourages skin-to-skin contact with mom for at least one hour shortly after birth, promoting bonding and maintenance of baby's important vitals.
- FBC nurses and lactation consultants are specially trained to assist in the breastfeeding process; The Baby Café, located at the Mercy Outpatient Center, provides additional support with no appointment necessary.



# Enhancing Patient Care

The goal of the Foundation is to raise \$500,000 by June 2021, ensuring critical equipment, like the items listed below, and modifications can be implemented.



Members of our dedicated Family Birth Center team.

## Fetal Monitor Carts

Many of the rooms in the Family Birth Center are LDRPs. LDRP is an acronym for Labor, Delivery, Recovery, Postpartum and describes a maternity unit designed for family-centered care. Women in labor and their families complete normal childbearing experiences in one home-like room.

The Fetal Monitor Carts are part of the overall look and feel for these rooms - storing all of the monitoring equipment used throughout the childbirth experience.

## Labor and Delivery Cribs

From the time we opened our doors on May 2, 2010, more than 25,000 babies have been born at Mercy Medical Center, and every one of those babies started their lives by sleeping in the hospital's cribs. At 10 years old, these cradles of hope and love are starting to show their age.

Newborns must be kept in a warm, protective environment. These replacement cribs will provide this, as well as storage space for all necessities a newborn may need. The large interior size allows the clinical team easy access to baby for all types of necessary procedures.



## iSTAT Glucose Analyzers

During the precious first minutes of life, newborns need to have their blood tested. This test is accomplished by pricking the infant's heel and the sample is sent to the lab for testing. Not only does it take time, but often requires re-testing, which results in the interruption of bonding time.

The iSTAT portable clinical analyzer, which is now the standard of care for hospitals everywhere, is designed to be used at the patient's bedside for critical care tests such as blood gases, electrolytes, metabolites, and blood coagulation.

Most importantly, it allows for lab results in two minutes, and only one stick of the baby's heel. Without this modern addition to the Family Birth Center, babies may be subjected to two or more "pokes."

*Your support is an investment  
in the young lives that will shape the future of our community!*