The new hospital expansion includes 36 private rooms and the conversion of all adult rooms in the hospital from semi-private to private rooms. At our Physicians Medical Center facility, where all patient rooms are private, we have consistently achieved outstanding patient satisfaction scores. With the new wing, we look forward to replicating the patient experience of PMC.

The hospital held 42 community outreach meetings during 2014 and listened to the wishes of the community. Overwhelmingly, the Santa Fe community wanted private rooms. Studies show that benefits of private rooms, which are all critical to the healing of patients, include:

- Improvement of sleep.
- Reduction of noise levels, which contributes to a more relaxed atmosphere for the patient.
- Contributions to longer, private discussions between doctor and patient, or nurse and patient, than a semi-private (double) room.
- Improvement of satisfaction of nurses and other healthcare providers, which also enhances the environment for better healing.

Our patients bring their families to help them through their stay. Large private rooms support the Santa Fe family tradition of being together.

The total cost of construction for this project is $44 million. The money for this project came from the following sources: $6 million to date from the St. Vincent Hospital Foundation; $3.7 million from SVHsupport; $11.3 million from CHRISTUS Health; and the remaining from CHRISTUS St. Vincent and continued contribution from SVH Foundation.

The current hospital double room size is 240 square feet. The new single rooms will be 280 square feet—so the single rooms will be larger than the former double rooms.

There are currently 200 licensed beds at CHRISTUS St. Vincent Hospital. With the completion of the new wing and the conversion of the existing semi-private rooms to all private, the hospital will have a total of 206 licensed beds.

The New York Times writes that the move towards private rooms is a nationwide trend. “In many new hospitals and pavilions, these semi-private rooms have vanished. Single-patient rooms are now viewed as an important element in high-quality health care.”