

Cancer Family Care Charrette

The Retreat of Cancer Family Care

CANCERFAMILYCARE
 2421

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Retreat is to provide a sanctuary for patients and their families as they navigate the journey of physical, emotional and spiritual healing during all stages of cancer treatment.

Vision Statement

To our patients and their families:

If we could give you this
 It would be a place
 Where the chill of science and medicine
 Would warm with the true intentions of healing

It would be a sanctuary
 Where turmoil turns to peace
 Where fear transforms to courage
 Where pain evolves to comfort
 Where despair emerges as hope
 And where the beauty in us all is revealed

May all who enter feel the salve upon their souls.
 May they unload burdens there and leave in peace.

-Heidi Murley, MD



Cancer Family Care main building



Behind Cancer Family Care main building & Carriage House

Interior of a Maggie Centre in Edinburgh, United Kingdom



Scope

Founded in 1971, the Cancer Family Care (CFC) is located in Mount Auburn, Cincinnati. The CFC "provides counseling and understanding to cancer patients and their families to help them cope with the devastating emotional impact of disease and loss," (www.cancerfamilycare.org, 2005). The CFC sought out The University of Cincinnati, School of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning to help create conceptual plans for the layout and design of a new building. During the weekend of February 11-13, 2005 fourteen students volunteered to help with the project. The charrette started with a listening session in which CFC board members explained what they were looking for in the new building design and shared personal testimonials about their experiences with Cancer. The CFC was inspired by the design and concept of Maggie's Centres in the United Kingdom. The Maggie's Centres provide a home away from home for cancer patients and their families. With a similar mission statement, the CFC based the program for the new building on the Maggie's Centre. The next two days at University of Cincinnati were intense and full of design, following the dream established by CFC. Dividing into teams, the students approached the design dilemma at hand. Despite concerns over the slope and the presence of the existing carriage house, designing a project without restrictions was both overwhelming and stimulating. Students were able to work around the design problems with ease showing the motivation was stronger than the problem. In two days the end result provided five very different schemes. Cancer Family Care will use the work of the charrette to support fundraising efforts for the further design and implementation of the project.



A Maggie Centre by Frank Gehry



All involved in Charrette



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