

UPMC Mercy Pavilion is a new state-of-the-art facility serving patients in the Pittsburgh region and beyond with diseases of the eye or vision impairment. The facility is designed to be welcoming and inclusive at every level, from the streetscape to the rehabilitation and care areas. To achieve this, the landscape architect worked closely with one of the world's only blind architects to infuse the facility with design strategies that promote multi-sensory interaction, wayfinding, positive mental health outcomes and connection to community.

Central to the design is a new Rehabilitation and Healing Garden, an innovative care space for patients who are adjusting to changes in their vision. A powerful demonstration of the healing potential of landscape architecture, the Garden utilizes non-visual stimuli, including touch and sound, to promote exploration and combat depression. As a community space, the garden offers opportunities to explore art and horticulture with others.

The landscape design is completed by a flexible outdoor work and intimate events space for UPMC's staff known as the Winter Garden. Sustainable design measures include new street trees and a plaza to improve outdoor comfort and combat urban heat island effects, as well as two levels of non-accessible green roof for stormwater management.



LEVEL 4 REHABILITATION &
HEALING GARDEN
4,900 sf

LEVEL 4 STAFF WINTER GARDEN
4,100 sf

LEVEL 6 GREENROOF
18,100 sf

LEVEL 5 GREENROOF
5,600 sf



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Contributing Firms:

CLIENT : UPMC Mercy

Architect, Interiors, : HOK

LOW VISION CONSULTANT : Chris Downey

Engineers : IKM, Langan, Arup, SGH, CJL, AEI, Jacobs, Sextant

Contractor : Mascaro Barton Malow