

Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital Opens

After decades of planning and fundraising, the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital at University Hospital opened to patients on September 23.

"The facility we have here I would hold up to any children's hospital in the United States," says Thomas Welch, MD, chairman of the Upstate Medical University Pediatrics Department.

The two-story, 71-bed children's hospital crowns the top of University Hospital's new \$150 million East Tower addition and is named for Rochester-area businessman B. Thomas Golisano, who donated \$6 million to build it. The facility was designed after visits to 15 of the most modern children's hospitals in the United States and is chock-full

of enhanced patient and family amenities, most notably spacious patient rooms with private baths and furniture designed to give parents and family members a comfortable night's sleep without leaving their child's side. The private rooms are more than 250-square-feet larger than the hospital's existing pediatric rooms, which are double rooms. The entire two-story children's hospital increases the amount of space dedicated to pediatric

University Hospital's East Tower crowned by the new Golisano Children's Hospital. The ribbon-cutting at the hospital opening festivities.



Sharon Bauer, RN, BA, nurse manager at Upstate's Waters Center for Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders, with a patient at the opening of the Golisano Children's Hospital in September.

care five-fold, from 18,000 square feet to more than 87,000. Floors also contain numerous age-appropriate playrooms, and family lounges where parents and others can prepare meals and relax.

Perhaps the most eye-catching element of the facility is the large two-story "tree house" space located on the east side of the building more than 100 feet in the air. The tree house serves as the entrance to the Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital and also includes a café, solarium, chapel, and exhibit space.

The hospital within a hospital occupies the 11th and 12th floors of University Hospital's new East Tower. Among its many features are:

- **Pediatric Intensive Care** Fifteen single-patient rooms with the latest medical technology plus sliding glass doors for maximum visibility.
- **Center for Children's Surgery** Twenty-three single rooms designed for seamless connection with the Pediatric Surgery Center.
- **Hematology Oncology** Twelve single patient rooms customized for patients with cancer and blood disorders.
- **Epilepsy Rooms** Six strategically placed patient rooms, wired to monitor seizure activity.
- **Schoolroom** Staffed by a full-time tutor and wired for face-to-face interaction between patients and their classmates.

