

De Paul Treatment Centers is becoming Fora Health



Fora HealthTM
TREATMENT & RECOVERY

FAQs

Why are you changing your name?

Designing our new campus presented an opportunity to examine our business from top to bottom, including our name, mission, and values. We believe that Fora Health positions us strongly as a healthcare organization, supporting patients and families as they learn to manage the chronic, relapsing disease of addiction. The new name also reduces public confusion with other organizations that share De Paul as part of their name. We have been operating as an independent 501c3 since 1977 and a new name makes it clear that we are not a religious or social service organization. We love our partners who are, but it's time to make that distinction.

Historically, substance use and behavioral health care has been incorrectly viewed as a moral failing rather than a treatable disease. Conversations with community partners and board members supported the idea that we have a leadership role to play in shifting this perception. We worked with a committee of board members and staff and hired rebranding experts OVO to develop our new brand. They conducted extensive research and brought their significant expertise and creativity to launching Fora Health. We see this as an opportunity to be aspirational and forward thinking as we take on a new, more robust role in the health of our region. We are so grateful to our founders and are extremely proud of our nearly five-decade history, and yet we embrace this opportunity for change presented by retiring the De Paul Treatment Centers brand.

When will the new building be open for patients?

The walls and roof are up and the campus at 10230 Cherry Blossom Drive is taking shape. R&H Construction and developers Edlen & Co. have been diligent to keep our project on track and we are on schedule to complete construction in August 2021. Our plan is to move patients and staff into the new facility as early as September. Please make sure you are signed up to receive emails so we can keep you updated.

How are you making your new center responsive to all cultures?

We are committed to a person-centered, trauma-informed approach to substance use and behavioral health care, which begins with acknowledging and addressing the severe trauma caused by systemic racism and oppression. As an organization, we have strategic goals to advance DEI internally and externally, and we are in the process of connecting with key culturally specific organizations, specifically in our new SE Portland neighborhood, to identify how we can support their work and provide community resources based on their guidance.

We have also recently appointed Mariam Ukbazghi to serve as our Equity Programs Manager to develop programming across all of Fora Health's service areas and specifically address the needs of BIPOC individuals and families in our care. Mariam will also work collaboratively with the HR Team to ensure all staff engage in culturally responsive training and deliver programs through an anti-racist lens.

We are currently in the process of hiring three new bi-lingual/bi-cultural Latinx positions to work out of our Hillsboro Clinic. These positions will help expand our medically assisted treatment options and prioritize the large Latinx population served by the Hillsboro Clinic. In the process, we will develop Spanish-language education and outreach materials that can be used system-wide.

Are any of your services changing?

No services are being discontinued, but almost all our program areas are expanding. Fora Health will continue to offer the full continuum of care and prioritize patients who qualify for public insurance, but we will do it even better than before. Our new facility will nearly triple our outpatient capacity, will re-introduce our day treatment program, and we will remain one of the largest residential treatment facilities in the region. The new facility enables us to further innovate treatment of co-occurring mental health issues and will offer expanded family therapy and peer mentor programs.

In addition, we recently welcomed a new Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Jessica Gregg. She joins us from OHSU and is spearheading the expansion of our medically assisted treatment options and our investment in wrap around services. Through all this change, our Hillsboro Outpatient Clinic and NE Youth and Family Services will continue to operate. It is just our downtown services and administrative staff that are relocating to the new facility in SE Portland.

Can you tell us more about the new building?

Our architects have been wonderful, and we couldn't be more excited to share more about Holst Architecture's design. The new building features intuitive wayfinding, trauma-informed design, and an abundance of natural light. From the color scheme to the floorplan, our new building has been designed to provide a welcoming, calming, and balanced experience. The new building is ADA compliant and features amenities that will elevate the recovery experience and, hopefully, lead to more program completion and higher success rates. These amenities include over an acre of landscaping, a therapy garden, fitness center, art studio, patient resource center, and more. As many of you know, our downtown headquarters has always presented us with operational challenges and was not built with healthcare in mind. We are so excited that the new building will provide us with both practicality and beauty!

How is De Paul doing in general?

Our team truly is an incredible group of people. They have been diligent throughout the COVID-19 crisis to ensure continuation of patient care and put special energy into connecting with folks at a high risk of disengaging from treatment. Our staff launched telehealth services in record time at the start of the pandemic, and the detox, adult, and youth residential teams have been nothing short of amazing in maintaining rigorous safety protocols.

We are so grateful that we have remained financially stable and rich in talent, but we would be remiss if we presented too rosy a picture – weathering this crisis has been extremely difficult and there are a lot of frayed nerves and tired eyes around our campuses. Our data is, unfortunately, trending with national studies of increased acuity and overdose rates. The Oregon Health Authority found that overdose deaths spiked dramatically in Oregon during the second quarter of 2020, increasing more than 60% from the same period in 2019. Our team is performing a truly heroic feat and their empathy, compassion, and resilience keep us moving forward.

Through all of it, we try to look on the bright side that our new facility will be opening as we approach herd immunity and will increase our ability to address our region's substance use and co-occurring mental health crises.

Questions? Please ask!

Contact Director of Development and Marketing Sarah Taylor 503-535-1183

development@depaultc.org