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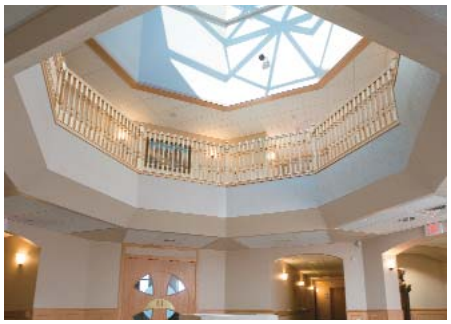

tpmg™ TOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Vision taken to the power of green

Scope/Area
Motherhouse
51,500 sq. ft.

Completed
June 2006

In 2002, the Sisters embarked on a three-year planning process, guided by Hoffman, that enabled them to take a realistic look at their membership, their buildings, and their plans for the future. Instead of the growing membership of the 1950s, they now face the aging of their members, fewer Sisters, reduced income, and the need for a facility that is better suited to their needs.

The old Motherhouse needed upgrades including plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling, fire alarm, and an elevator. Part of the roof needed replacement and there was asbestos to be removed. Some of the bedrooms were too small for medical equipment, and there was only one shared bathroom per floor in each wing. Additionally, the long halls and distances between the dining room, chapel, bedrooms and community room were a challenge for many.

After consultation with all the Sisters, the planning committee made the decision to build a new, smaller, energy efficient Motherhouse, rather than renovate their existing structure. The new Motherhouse is 20,000 square feet less than their former home.

Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross

Green Bay, Wisconsin

Features of the new, two-story building include 35 bedrooms with handicap accessible private baths; kitchenette and laundry facilities near the bedrooms; administration offices; and a community room and dining room with a movable wall for flexible use for large group gatherings. There is also a chapel, a library with computer stations, porches, a courtyard area, and level walking paths. An elevator has been added, and the main entrance and parking is handicap accessible.

Advantages of building this new facility are great. Maintenance and operational costs will be reduced, energy efficiency will improve, and there are better heating and air conditioning systems. There is improved life safety for the aging Sisters, accessibility to bathrooms, greater accessibility to indoor and outdoor areas, and an accessible garden and orchard. The administrative offices are also now separated from the living areas. Additionally, the site is master planned to allow for expansion should trends change. The facility is situated on a 12-acre parcel, and trees, wetlands and other vegetated areas were preserved to enhance the Motherhouse grounds and the surrounding neighborhood.

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