

Bob Sehring – CEO, OSF HealthCare

OSF HealthCare Cancer Institute

From your perspective, what does the building of the Cancer Institute mean?

It's more than just what happens here in Peoria. It really is about the ability to connect all of OSF 's hospitals and markets, it's bringing together a collaborative approach to cancer care throughout Illinois. And that's really what we see as the huge benefit of this cancer center. True enough, it'll be a destination center, it will provide care to those who need that highest level care. But you don't need to come here for that. You can have that same benefit of that collaboration wherever you are in any of OSF's markets. :37

How are we working to meet the needs of patients through the Cancer Institute?

What we hear mostly about patients, is the lack of coordination, because you have multiple specialists who are engaged in treating a patient who has gotten a cancer diagnosis. And so, when we think of the cancer center it's that ability to bring together all of these specialists to bring to bear on this patient's cancer, and their diagnosis, and really to develop the best plan of treatment for them. And so it was always through the lens of the patient's eyes on what they needed to see most out of a cancer treatment program. :37

This will be a destination medical center. What does that mean for economic impact for the Cancer Institute?

The Cancer Institute will really enable Peoria to be a destination center for those with acute oncological diagnoses, who want to come and receive some of the highest end care that they can for the treatment of their disease. It will have some of the most advanced technology, including proton beam, which is vitally important for the treatment of certain cancers, in particular for those in children. And so it's a huge benefit that we see, to be able to offer here in Peoria, but again, serving a much broader area throughout central, northern and southern Illinois. :36

Collaboration is huge in this building, isn't it?

When I think of the OSF Cancer Institute I think about a place, a venue for collaboration. It's bringing together specialists from across the spectrum to focus on a patient, a patient's diagnosis, and then developing the best treatment plan for that patient. It's also about research, bringing together this expertise with a focus on developing the best treatments for cancers that are coming, and how do we treat those in the future. So it's both a venue for developing care for our patients, but it's also developing the next set of treatments for these cancers. :38