



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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APEX Insider Event at St. Luke's, August 12th

Duluth, MN: On Wednesday, August 12, the Area Partnership for Economic Expansion (APEX) was pleased to host our most recent Insider Event at St. Luke's. The event featured their newly renovated, state-of-the-art emergency department set to open this fall. We are honored to have had the opportunity to allow APEX members a sneak peek of the new emergency department prior to its opening to the general public.

"St. Luke's has always offered premier care throughout our region and the expansion of their emergency department is a testament to their growth and success," explained Brian Hanson, APEX President and CEO. "We were proud to be able to host this Insider Event as it celebrated, not only St. Luke's growth as a facility, but also their mission to provide optimal patient-centered care throughout our region."

St. Luke's has been working on the planning, design and development of the new emergency department for over three years. With the expansion of rooms, amenities and advanced medical equipment, the hospital's safe and modern facility is focused on keeping patients' privacy top of mind.

"The new department offers cutting edge equipment and highlights a state-of-the-art, patient-driven design," said Michael Boeselager, Vice President of Support Services at St. Luke's. "A lot of planning and preparation went into this facility, including multiple site visits to hospitals like Regions in St. Paul, Gundersen in La Crosse and the Mayo Clinic. We took our time to define and study best practices while also gaining valuable input from our physicians and care providers who would be utilizing the department most."

The Insider Event included a social hour and short presentation that highlighted prominent features of the new facility as well as the progression of the project. After, small groups were taken on a 15-minute walk-through of the new department. Service line leaders were available to talk about trauma care as well as unique aspects of the space, all centered on the patient experience.

Historically, St. Luke's emergency department has been on a solid growth pattern, averaging 90 to 110 visits per day in the emergency department. The new space will ultimately allow the hospital to sustain their increasing numbers, care for patients efficiently and effectively, and make a patient's emergency department visit as comfortable of an experience as possible.

"I think the new emergency department creates a space matching the talent of our care providers, giving them the resources and an environment that they and our patients deserve," explained Boeselager. "After all, the emergency department is a difficult place to be, so our goal is to help diminish our patients' anxiety as much as possible by providing comfortable, private rooms backed by professional care they can count on."



APEX was proud to take part in hosting this Insider Event for the new emergency department as it offers first-rate, close-to-home care that highlights St. Luke's mission of putting the patient first. Backed by high-quality expertise, advanced technology and compassionate care, the new facility will contribute a strong sense of community and an economic investment to our region. The St. Luke's emergency department will officially open to the public September 25, 2020.

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About APEX

APEX is the private sector led business development engine for northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin. APEX investor-members represent some of the most influential companies in the region, with a collaborative approach to promoting sustainable economic growth. APEX attraction, expansion and retention efforts focus in areas including aviation, manufacturing, professional services and next generation forest products. APEX has impacted over 4,340 jobs in the region, resulting in an annual regional payroll of over \$177.9 million and contributing to over \$24.5 million in state and local taxes annually. For more information on APEX, please visit www.APEXgetsbusiness.com.