

## Family Wellness

Sioux Falls, S.D.



PHOTOS BY STEVE PAREZO/GENE'S STUDIO

Architectural precast concrete, glass and glazed masonry were utilized to signify the wellness center's various elements.



The central welcome desk is on an axis with two entrances, providing staff with clear views and maximum control.



The large glass wall of the pool area, with its wave of colored glass, floods the space with daylight and gives it a sense of both play and purpose.

**F**amily Wellness, the first new YMCA facility in Sioux Falls, S.D., in 85 years, is a joint venture between the YMCA and Sanford Hospital and Health Systems. Instead of competing for members on the rapidly growing west edge of the city, the two institutions combined resources to construct a larger facility.

The conditioning center is designed as the focal point, a central open space around which nearly all program spaces are arrayed. Bright, playful colors and

patterns emerge throughout the interior to reflect activity and exuberance, and large expanses of glass provide natural light and views throughout the interior. A ring of clerestory windows wraps the central conditioning center, and a large skylight accents the welcome desk while several smaller skylights bring natural light into the locker rooms.

The exterior design emphasizes primary program elements in the building's massing. The pool, conditioning center, gymnasium and administrative/youth

areas are separate, well-defined elements. Meanwhile, the use of architectural precast concrete panels and exposed structural elements helped reduce construction costs.

### ARCHITECT OF RECORD:

Koch Hazard Architects  
Sioux Falls, S.D.

**COST:** \$8.3 million

**SQUARE FEET:** 73,280

**OCCUPANCY:** August 2006