



Kissito Post Acute, October 30, 2008

Cane Island rehabilitation facility focuses on short-term care

By Kimberly Pina, Chronicle Correspondent, Photograph by Suzanne Rehak

A new rehabilitation care center in Katy is helping meet the medical and health needs of patients who are transitioning from the hospital to their home.

Cane Island Post Acute Care, 21727 Provincial Blvd., recently celebrated its ribbon cutting with the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce as a new health facility for patients needing short-term physical therapy care.

"We act as a transitional care facility from where the hospital leaves off to the time the person needs to go home," said Robert A. Turner, chief administrative officer of Cane Island Post Acute Care. "Most reimbursement systems are forcing hospitals to discharge patients earlier and before they're ready to go home. We fit in that gap."

Most patients receive rehabilitation for joint replacement or joint repair, stroke recovery, cardiopulmonary recovery, prosthetics and orthotics, renal care, including dialysis and wound care.

Since the center opened in August, more than 12 patients have received treatment and successfully returned home, Turner said.

Currently, 25 patients are receiving care at Cane Island in preparation to return home rather than back to the hospital or to a nursing home.

"Our goal is to keep people from entering institutionalized care and there's such a tremendous need for that," Turner said. "The longer your length of stay is in the hospital, you become care-giver dependent and people don't recover well from that."

Built on almost four acres, the 75-bed facility includes all private rooms for patients, a physical therapy workout room and 24-hour nursing care.

The center is the first of its kind in the Houston area, said Ilicia Allen, regional director of business development and marketing for Kissito Post Acute, the national company that owns the Katy facility as well as Katyville Health Care Center.

"If a senior has an injury and is in need of rehab, the only option they have is to go to a nursing home that offers these services," Allen said. "Cane Island offers all these services but without the nursing home piece, and is taking a new approach to caring for our seniors."



While the majority of patients are senior adults, Turner said patients as young as 41 have received care at Cane Island.

The typical patient is one who has been recently discharged from the hospital but due to the need for continuing services cannot safely return home or to an assisted-living center. The average length of stay is 17 days, Turner said.

The team of therapists, nurses and nurse practitioners at Cane Island provides rehabilitative services, including physical and occupational therapy.

Patients are referred to Cane Island usually from hospitals and most patients receive treatment through Medicare or their commercial insurance, Turner said. Many patients leave Cane Island Post Acute Care stronger than when they arrived, he said.

"When you can get a patient out of an acute environment and free up that hospital bed for the next patient, yet continue with the necessary care in a center like ours so the patient can return home, there are a multitude of benefits for everyone," Turner said. "Something that health care is starved for is creative solutions."

For information, call 281-717-1302