

NEWS // CONNECTICUT

Hartford HealthCare expands cancer and behavioral health services in Southington

By **Cris Villalonga-Vivoni**, Staff Writer
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[Hartford HealthCare](#) is expanding one of its oncology infusion centers in hopes of offering [more accessible cancer](#) treatment options for patients.

The Bradley Memorial Campus in Southington of Hartford HealthCare's Hospital of Central Connecticut is relocating its medical oncology and infusion services into a new area to double its office space and [offer more cancer services](#) to patients. This includes six new rooms for cancer infusions with new chairs and furniture and two new medical exam rooms. It also includes several features to improve patient experience, like a dedicated parking area, building entrance, check-in area and waiting room.

The health system's goal is to improve access to services since over half of the patients who use health care services at the Bradley campus live in Southington, according to a press release from Hartford HealthCare.

“This expansion enhances the experience for our patients and their families, especially our rapidly growing 65+ patient population,” said Gina Calder, president of The Hospital of Central Connecticut, in a press release. “By improving the flow and function of our facilities, we are making care more convenient, efficient, and comfortable.”

The funding for the expansion comes from a \$177,179 grant from the Bradley Henry Barnes and Leila Upson Barnes Memorial Trust at the Main Street Community Foundation, a public charity supporting organizations throughout Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington, and Wolcott with several grants and funds. Its website said that this grant is specifically awarded to nonprofit organizations developing programs that will improve the health of Southington residents.

The foundation also provided Hartford HealthCare’s Behavioral Health Network, located in Southington, a \$70,000 grant to expand its services to meet the [growing demand for mental health care](#).

“Access to quality mental health care is a necessity, and these improvements will make a meaningful difference for individuals and families in Southington,” said Dr. James O’Dea, senior vice president of the Behavioral Health Network, in a press release. “Hartford HealthCare is committed to addressing the whole person—mind and body—and these expansions are a testament to that mission.”

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HEALTH EQUITY REPORTER

Cris Villalonga-Vivoni, also known as CV, is the health equity beat reporter for the Record-Journal and a Report for America corps member since 2022. Originally from Puerto Rico, they have a BA in English from Boston College and an MS in Journalism from Northwestern University. They previously worked as a Field Foundational Fellow at the Windy City Times, a Chicago-based LGBTQ+ newspaper. When not working, they can be found playing board games with friends or cuddling their cat on the couch.