



Jesse H. Jones Rotary House International

<https://www.mdanderson.org/patients-family/becoming-our-patient/getting-to-md-anderson/traveling-to-houston/rotary-house-international.html>

About

The Jesse H. Jones Rotary House International is a patient housing facility exclusively dedicated to serving the needs of M. D. Anderson cancer patients and their families. It is managed by the Marriott Conference Centers.

History

In 1993, a thirty-year dream of the Rotary Club of Houston, following upon its providing free apartments to Rotarians from other countries undergoing treatment for cancer at the Texas Medical Center, became a successful fund-raising reality with the construction of the Jesse H. Jones Rotary House International, the largest project by a single Rotary club in history.

After the popular Mayfair Hotel, located at Holcombe and Braeswood, was imploded in 1991, the Rotary Club of Houston raised a total of \$26 million to build a new patient and family hotel in its place. It was built to replace a converted apartment building owned by M.D. Anderson, who was then renting units to long-term chemotherapy patients.

With gifts from individuals as well as grants from the Rotary Club of Houston and The Houston Endowment, the Jesse H. Jones Rotary House International was opened two years later. It stood 11 floors with 198 guest rooms. It also included a sky bridge connecting the facility to M.D. Anderson.

In 2001, it expanded to 322 rooms. The expansion included the addition of Patient Guest Relations, a liaison service between M.D. Anderson clinical care and patients staying at Rotary House International, as well as common hotel amenities like a gift shop, conference center and indoor pool. In addition, a 10-story parking garage opened.

Then, in 2015, Rotary House began renovations to improve its look and to better meet patient needs. It was the first major renovation since the 2001 expansion. The improvements included work to modernize its look and improve amenities that are important to patients. The accommodations include using special color schemes to enhance appetite and building wide hallways to allow for wheelchair use. The hotel lobby and common spaces will feature modern aesthetics and artwork, additional seating and

lounging areas, an updated restaurant and bar, an improved business center and an enlarged space for patient lab services.

All 322 guest rooms were built out with new furniture and bedding, larger TVs, improved lighting, air conditioning units with wireless thermostats and desks with more connectivity. Moreover, a majority of the rooms have stand-up showers to make it easier for some patients to use. Every room also has a microwave and refrigerator.

Pre-Covid, the Rotary Club of Houston held a social for the cancer patients on a regular basis. Club members provided refreshments in the hotel lobby, as well as entertainment, usually in the form of a sing along. It gave the patients a respite from all that they were going through while dealing with cancer.