

Maximized Technology on a Tight Budget



IT Initiatives Improves Needed Technology Plan

The County of Middlesex sought IT Initiatives when the realization of their technology needs was encountered during the construction of their new long term care facility. A true understanding of everything required for a successful, state-of-the-art (but cost effective) senior care community was realized after the concrete was poured...

Middlesex County engaged with the firm to provide the following services:

- Strategic Technology Planning
- Wired Nurse Call System
- Resident Location System
- Fall Management System
- Wander Management System
- Structured Cabling Design
- Unified Communications
- System Integration
- Network Infrastructure
- Video Surveillance
- Access Control
- Audio/Visual Systems
- Resident Entertainment Systems
- Digital Signage
- Data Center Design
- Redundant Power Systems
- Full Campus Wireless Network
- Project Management
- Metropolitan Area Network Integration
- Network Security Design

From a literal approach, IT Initiatives engaged with the County of Middlesex when concrete was being poured for the slab of their new long term care facility. Successfully operating others, the County of Middlesex understood the true need for the engagement with the firm to ensure a successful strategic technology design would be implemented in their new facility. Their needs were many, and the time allowed for designed was short. Through their partnership with the firm, the County was able to ensure true system viability while ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Strategic Technologies

Access Control & Video Surveillance— IT Initiatives designed a fully integrated security system, while ensuring fiscal conservatism. Wander management, installed at each required door throughout the dementia unit, ensured residents were safe and contained in each of their neighborhoods. Access control ensured authorized employees and visitors could enter secure locations, such as med rooms, and enter the building after hours using card access technologies.

Video surveillance cameras, installed at all outdoor entry/exit points throughout the building, were fully monitored at the front desk 24/7. Installed cameras, worked in the evening with true facial recognition, ensuring camera images were truly viable both day and night. Camera resolution was better than high definition, allowing video to be zoomed while video degradation was not realized.

Access control and video surveillance systems were fully integrated, ensuring video images were available for every event in the card access system. In addition, the access control system design called for images to appear from the video surveillance system when users entered the building, requiring the receptionist or evening security guard to monitor a single interface.

Digital Signage — Simple communication is helpful to residents—ensuring they know what is going on in their home. Weather, activities, meals, calendars and other information appeared on screens throughout the building, as well as televisions in each resident room.

Network Infrastructure

“Behind the Scenes” Equipment — To run a long term care facility requires a lot of equipment—or does it? While ensuring system redundancies, equipment was virtualized to run many applications on a two hardware server. In addition, the network core (where everything connects and transfers through) was implemented as fully fault-tolerant. In the event any portion of the system failed, every part of the puzzle could continue to function. This is critical in all healthcare applications.

The network fully supported not only data, but also all voice systems. Unified communications was implemented, providing an integrated voice platform for employees. This ensured voicemail and email were available from a single application. In addition, wireless phones operated from anywhere in the building, with single number reach ensuring an employee could be contacted and located. Video surveillance systems were also supported by the network.

Electronic Medical Records— To provide the best quality care and ensure the highest reimbursement rates, fully electronic medical records were implemented in the facility. A fully integrated system was implemented, including financial, census, pharmacy and clinical components. Data entry was performed at point-of-care using wall-mounted kiosks or wireless handhelds working throughout the building. System administration was available from a computer anywhere with proper credentials.

Audio/Visual

The County wanted to provide true high-definition television to all residents, while controlling costs. IT Initiatives negotiated a contract with Cablevision, saving them over \$ 112,000 over a five year term. Each resident room featured a large screen flat panel television with over 120 channels in high definition, in addition to the ability to view the facility information station.

In addition to resident rooms, living rooms were outfitted with large high definition systems, each equipped with Wii ® systems and Blu-Ray players. Residents could participate in games, watch movies or listen to high-fidelity music.

A multi-purpose room was also outfitted with a high definition video system, as well as a state-of-the-art audio system.

About IT Initiatives

IT Initiatives is a technology planning and consulting firm, specializing in the design, specification, bidding, project management and coordination of advanced technologies. Working to achieve the business goals of organizations, IT Initiatives specializes in designing systems that fit the specific needs of healthcare organizations, never using a “cookie cutter” approach.

IT Initiatives has offered innovated technology architecture for clients since 2001. Working throughout the United States, IT Initiatives can provide professional consulting services during new construction, facility renovations or when improvements to the technological competence of an organization is required. Focusing on the healthcare industry, along with the education and ecclesiastic marketplace, IT Initiatives seeks to design and develop technologies for facilities that improve the quality of life for people of every age. In addition, we seek to enhance efficiency for every client, as well as streamline the operations of facilities in each respective industry.



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Professional Consulting Competencies:

Physical Security
Audio/Visual
Telecommunications
Network Infrastructure (wired\less)