New drug, alcohol addiction treatment center set

Guardian Recovery, a national behavioral healthcare provider, and Froedtert South have announced plans to bring a drug and alcohol treatment facility to Kenosha.

Set to open in the summer of 2025, the Guardian Recovery-Kenosha Addiction Center will offer evidence-based detox and residential care in a 72-bed facility in the Palmer Building at the Froedtert Kenosha Center at 6308 Eighth Ave.

The new treatment center will be part of Guardian Recovery, which includes 20 treatment centers across seven states.

The new center is being designed to meet the increasing need for behavioral health services in Wisconsin. According to the 2021-22 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 989,000 people aged 12 and older in Wisconsin were classified as needing substance use disorder treatment. However, only 236,000 individuals (23.8%) received care.

According to the Community Health Survey — a component of the 2022 Kenosha County Community Health Assessment — respondents indicated that drug and alcohol use was the third most critical health concern in the county, after affordable healthcare and affordable housing.

"After vetting several potential partners, we found Guardian Recovery had earned a reputation for its world-class drug and alcohol treatment facilities," said Tom Kelley, Chief Financial Officer for Froedtert South. "Guardian Recovery's programs tackle addiction on every level — physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual. They believe that this holistic approach to recovery gives their clients the absolute best chance at transforming their lives.

"Froedtert South strongly believes this partnership with Guardian Recovery will provide significant resources and a big step toward combating the drug and alcohol addiction needs of the Kenosha community and surrounding areas, which was identified as one of the most critical health concerns in the Kenosha County Community Health Needs Assessment," he said.

"This partnership marks a critical step forward in our ongoing efforts to address the pressing issues of substance abuse and addiction that affect so many in our community," Mayor David Bogdala said.

"The new center will provide essential services, including detoxification, rehabilitation, and aftercare support, offering hope and recovery to those in need. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Froedtert South and Guardian Recovery for their commitment to this vital cause. Together, we are taking a significant step towards a healthier, more resilient Kenosha."

Along with providing clients with behavioral healthcare, the new facility will offer supportive care and services to clients' families and support systems.

Guardian Recovery anticipates the facility will add more than 70 jobs to the community.

Located within the Froedtert Kenosha Center will comprise the three stories in the Palmer Building directly below the ClearSky Rehabilitation Hospital of Kenosha, the Guardian Recovery-Kenosha Addiction Center will offer evidence-based detox and inpatient care via individually customized care plans.

The new facility will provide 72 detox/residential beds available to those aged 18 and older. Clients will also have access to a fitness center, meals, in a facility benefiting from its Lake Michigan views. The three-floor space will undergo a complete renovation to ensure the environment is fully updated and modernized.

The facility will provide traditional therapies including medication-assisted treatment, dual-diagnosis care (co-occurring disorder treatment), aftercare coordination, case management, alumni programs, and individual, group, and family therapy alongside holistic treatment options such as nutritional therapy, yoga, meditation, and mindfulness practices.

"Guardian Recovery is honored to join forces with Froedtert South to bring accessible, high-quality behavioral healthcare to Kenosha," said Josh Scott, CEO of Guardian Recovery.

"This partnership with Froedtert South allows us to extend our evidence-based care model to a community with a well-established need and dearth of providers. Staffed by licensed and compassionate addiction professionals, the new facility will offer state-of-the-art amenities, breathtaking lake views, and a modern design providing a safe and nurturing environment to foster long-term recovery for individuals and enhanced well-being for the community," he said.

Along with accepting various insurance plans and self-payment options, the Kenosha Addiction Center will also take clients with Medicaid coverage.

In making the joint announcement, planners cited research from the Office of National Drug Control Policy that shows that every dollar invested in a substance use disorder treatment center saves $4 in healthcare costs and $7 in law enforcement and criminal justice costs.

Guardian Recovery is accredited by The Joint Commission.

The accreditation signifies the institution adheres to the highest quality and safety standards in patient care, treatment, and services.

To learn more about Guardian Recovery, visit www.guardianrecovery.com. For more about Froedtert South, visit www.froedtersouth.com.