

**The Campaign for  
Mercy Gilbert Medical Center's Tower Build-Out  
2004 - Excerpt**

**A Pioneering Spirit**

For decades, Arizona was a desolate territory of the United States and to many appeared to be a forgotten land.

Slowly, courageous settlers entered the great state, bringing with them a vision, governance and the desire to make Arizona their home. Spurred by irrigation projects in the 1900s, Arizona's valleys were transformed. What once was primarily a mining state became an area full of diversity – with ranching, manufacturing and technology.

The careful planning, collaboration and vision of yesterday's settlers has paved the way for unprecedented growth in The Valley of the Sun, now home to major corporations, highly acclaimed universities, arts and cultural events, and professional sports teams.

Today the East Valley, one of the most rapidly growing areas in the state, has the opportunity to write another chapter in Arizona's history, proving – like the pioneers - that any dream can be fulfilled when a community comes together.

By pioneering and supporting the construction of a state-of-the-art medical facility in Gilbert, the residents of the East Valley will ensure the health of the community for generations to come.

**Executive Summary**

As the population continues to expand, a new hospital in Gilbert is needed to meet the increasing demand for quality healthcare service in the East Valley.

Mercy Gilbert Medical Center, Gilbert's first hospital, will address the needs of one of the country's fastest growing towns and help alleviate overcrowded ERs and bed shortages facing hospitals that currently serve East Valley residents. The four-story, full-service, acute-care facility is co-sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, an order of Catholic nuns whose mission is to provide programs with a commitment to healing. The Sisters act as stewards of this mission and work collaboratively with the Medical Center team to ensure an environment of compassion integrated with state-of-the-art capabilities.