

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I use my cell phone on the Birthways floor?

Yes, cell phones are permitted on Birthways. A phone is also provided in your room. You can make local calls at no charge or use a calling card or call collect for long distance.

Should I call before I come?

We suggest calling your provider during office hours or First Nurse after office hours before coming to the hospital. Available 24 hours, First Nurse can be reached by calling:

- Ames: 515-239-6877.
- Marshalltown: 641-754-6877.
- Anywhere in Iowa: 800-524-6877.

If I bring my laptop, is Internet access available?

Yes, you may check your email on the computer in our visitors lounge, or if you have a laptop, free wireless is available for your convenience.

Where do I park?

Please take advantage of our free valet parking, available Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. If you do come through the Emergency Department, please have your vehicle moved from the Emergency Department lot as soon as possible.

How do I get into the hospital in the middle of the night?

After 9 p.m., enter the hospital through the Emergency Department.



Specialized care. Personal touch.

1111 Duff Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010

515-239-2444

Mary Greeley Medical Center is accredited by the Joint Commission.
All facilities and grounds of Mary Greeley Medical Center are tobacco free.

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www.mgmc.org



Welcome to
Birthways



Specialized care. Personal touch.



Welcome to Birthways

Your Nurses and Doctors

What makes Birthways so unique is our personal approach. Birthways is staffed by caring, highly trained professionals with many years of experience:

- 24-hour anesthesiologist coverage.
- Physicians are board-certified.
- Nurse-midwives are certified by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.
- All registered nurses are specially trained for obstetrical and neonatal care.
- Lactation consultants and breastfeeding educators are available around the clock.
- Birthways provides a discharge planner to help you and your baby transition home.

To prepare you for your arrival, you may want to take advantage of one of our class offerings:

- Big Brother/Big Sister
- Childbirth Education
- Refresher Childbirth Education
- Breastfeeding

Your Stay

At Birthways, we strive to support our new families as much as possible. We have 13 specially designed, homelike rooms that allow you to have your labor, delivery and recovery all in one room. Each of these rooms includes a whirlpool bathtub to help provide comfort while in labor, along with other amenities, including:

- State-of-the-art labor beds.
- Flat-screen television with DVD player tucked in a solid wood armoire.
- A special chair that converts to a bed for your labor coach to stay overnight.

We also have nine regular private rooms. In all rooms we offer room service from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., cable television, a closet for personal belongings and a private bathroom with a shower. We also have squat bars and labor balls available on request.

Your Visitors

Your birthing experience is all about you, your baby and your family. At Birthways, we understand that you want your friends and loved ones to meet your baby and share in your experience. We have an open visitation policy and only ask that you screen your visitors to make sure they are healthy prior to visiting. We ask all your guests to stop at the nurses station before visiting so we can call your room to make sure you accept visitors.

Cesarean Delivery

In case of Cesarean birth, the two operating rooms on Birthways allow you and your baby to receive the care you both need on the same unit.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Birthways has a level II, four-bed neonatal intensive and intermediate care unit, which offers specially trained staff and the latest technology for care of critically ill infants.

Newborn Security

The Birthways unit features a comprehensive security system that offers additional protection for our newborns.

- We use matching, nonremovable identification bands for baby, mom and one person of the mother's choosing.
- Electronic transmitters lock exit doors.
- Surveillance cameras monitor each exit off the floor at all times.



Nestled in Ames, Mary Greeley Medical Center has been delivering babies with central Iowans since 1916. We pride ourselves in providing quality, expert care in step with current recommendations.

Photography

We offer a professional photo session in your room, personalized for each family.