

Bournewood to expand

By Monica Deady

STAFF WRITER

Bournewood Hospital administrators announced a plan last month to break ground on a new building on its 12-acre site in South Brookline.

The building, which will be used for patient care, will combine all 90 patient beds into one location, instead of having multiple units in smaller buildings on the site for patients.

"We need more space," said Nasir Khan, the chairman and CEO of Bournewood Health Sys-

tems. Still, he emphasized that there would be no increase in the number of beds the psychiatric hospital has a state license for. "We are not increasing our license capacity. We're just building a new facility because the existing facilities are rather cramped now."

The new building is planned to be built on a lot that is currently a parking lot, and the parking lot will be located somewhere else on the hospital's property, Khan said. He said the new building would not likely be visible from the street.

The former patient buildings will be used as office space, current clinical programs and outpatient programs, Khan said.

The building is expected to match the hospital's existing façade.

Although there is no timeline as to when the plans will move forward, Khan said he expects that the hospital will appear before the town's planning and zoning boards to obtain the necessary permits to build.

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