For the medically underserved community of Newtown, the groundbreaking for a health care facility is a major milestone for its residents. Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH) Internal Medicine Practice at Newtown is the culmination of a shared vision among the hospital, its academic partner Florida State University (FSU) and community leaders to bring a reliable source of adult primary care to the Newtown community.

It is a project that required leadership, foresight, careful planning and gracious, thoughtful philanthropy.

The medical practice is part of the newly created FSU Internal Medicine Residency at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, which will begin training its first class of resident physicians in July 2017. The practice will be located at 1825 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, between Links and Osprey avenues.

The vision and hope is that the Newtown practice will help to reshape the health of the community through the collaboration of many individuals and organizations. Reshaping healthcare begins with access to ongoing preventative care that will help patients with chronic conditions and other health issues avoid having to use the hospital’s Emergency Care Center as their primary source for health care.

SMH Foundation