

# CENTER

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treatment center.

An estimated \$100,000 in interior furnishings were purchased from Business Interiors Inc. of Chicago, the No. 1 office furniture supplier in the Midwest.

"They wanted nothing cheap. They wanted only the best," said Julie Drover, account manager for Business Interiors.

The Human Service Center is financing construction, Boyle said, but the operation will be supported by a \$200,000 annual state grant and \$80,000 in other state funds now chan-

neled to St. Francis.

In addition, the state has agreed to a plan for subsidizing patients who cannot afford to cover their own expenses.

Instead of issuing a block grant for those patients, the state will establish a model of how such a clinic should be run and how much each patient should cost. The state then will subsidize each eligible patient based on the model.

Boyle said the model has not been developed yet, and Human Service Center officials have not determined what their rates will be at the White Oaks Center.

The facility will be staffed by 25 physicians, counselors, therapists and other specialists, some of whom

eventually will conduct in-house research on how better to treat alcoholism and other drug addictions.

In fact, Boyle said, the White Oaks Center will be such a complete facility that outside researchers might want to visit and use the center as a sort of laboratory.

The center represents a significant step toward modernizing social attitudes on the relationship between alcoholism and other drug addictions because all such diseases will be treated under the same roof.

"We think White Oaks is pointing the way for community-based treatment to go in the future," Boyle said.

Jack Gilligan, executive director of the Human Service Center, said agency officials purchased the land

for White Oaks and began laying plans for the facility more than a year ago.

But public announcements of the development were delayed in lieu of what could be an extremely high-profile grand opening ceremony, tentatively scheduled for Oct. 26.

Human Service Center officials say they hope to have on hand not only Gov. James Thompson but also President Reagan and first lady Nancy Reagan. The Reagans went on national television last week to declare a national crusade against drug abuse.

Ray LaHood, an aide to U.S. Rep. Robert Michel, R-Peoria, said his office will forward an official invitation to the Reagans at the White House.