Good Shepherd Specialty Hospital's Complex Medical Program Features:

Interdisciplinary Approach: Physicians, nurses specializing in ICU and medical/surgical care, case managers, physical, occupational and speech therapists, respiratory therapists, psychologists, pastoral care staff and registered dietitians work together to help the patient regain function and independence.

Individualized Care: The team of experts creates a care plan specific to the needs of each patient. We work with the referring hospital to identify obstacles prior to admission. Our proactive approach includes outcome-based methods of care, including access to:
- Wound management
- Dialysis
- IV therapy
- Nutritional therapy
- Burn care
- One-on-one therapy
- Patient and family education

Modern, Technologically Advanced Facility: Medical monitoring is available from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. by specially trained critical care intensivists who use sophisticated full-duplex, two-way audio/one-way video technology to monitor patient care from an off-site location.

At Lehigh Valley Hospital—Muhlenberg
South Entrance,
3rd and 4th floors
2545 Schoenersville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017
484-884-5000
Fax: 484-884-5085

www.GoodShepherdRehab.org
It was another routine work day in May 2008 for Rudy Rodriguez who is a construction foreman. Rudy travels nationwide building and rebuilding movie theaters, and on this fateful day he was in Crystal Lake, Illinois. Rudy was operating a utility machine, which is similar to a forklift, when the mechanical arm attached to the machine broke off and snapped him back into its cage. Rudy was trapped inside the cage and bore tons of hydraulic pressure on his chest.

By the time the paramedics arrived the machine had pounded three inches into Rudy's chest, leaving him unconscious and without breath for almost 20 minutes. Rudy was taken to Loyola University Hospital, where doctors detected that the accident had not only injured his chest and ribs, but had affected parts of his brain as well. Doctors at Loyola were not optimistic about Rudy's recovery, noting that they had never seen an accident like this before and they had never seen anyone take so long to recover.

Three weeks passed before Rudy's condition stabilized and he was transferred to Pennsylvania, where he lives. Rudy was admitted to Good Shepherd Specialty Hospital in Bethlehem and the physicians and specialized staff took on Rudy's medically complex case. Within days of being admitted to the Specialty Hospital, Rudy's future seemed brighter. He was soon weaned off a ventilator, began therapy to assure his long-term recovery and quickly began walking.

As a true testament to the level of care provided at the Specialty Hospital, Rudy was only in the long-term acute care unit for three weeks.

The journey has been both long and painful but Rudy remained faithful and resilient and has recovered significantly since that horrific day in May. Once released from the Specialty Hospital, Rudy continued his physical and cognitive therapy on an outpatient basis at Good Shepherd. Today, he is enjoying life at home with his wife and family and looks forward to returning to work.