

NEWS RELEASE

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BOTHWELL AUXILIARY FIRST TO MAKE MAJOR PLEDGE TO CANCER/CARDIOVASCULAR CENTER CAMPAIGN

Volunteers pledge \$150,000 to help fund cardiovascular, cancer centers

The Bothwell Regional Health Center Foundation has received its first major pledge to the “For Your Health, Close to Home” capital campaign, which hopes to raise \$3.5 million for the health center’s planned addition of a new cancer and cardiovascular center.

Bothwell Regional Health Center’s Auxiliary has pledged \$150,000 toward the Foundation’s capital campaign. The volunteer group plans to donate \$30,000 annually over the next five years to help fund the expansion of cancer and cardiovascular services at the hospital.

“We’re very appreciative of the Auxiliary’s generous gift,” said Foundation Director Melia Douglass. “It has kick-started our campaign to raise \$3.5 million for cancer and cardiovascular services in the community.”

The amount of the donation has historical significance, according to Auxiliary President Joyce Monroe.

“Eighty years ago, John Homer Bothwell donated \$150,000 to the city of Sedalia to establish the hospital,” Monroe said. “Today, Bothwell Regional Health Center serves more than 79,000 patients annually. It is our hope that this gift will allow the health center to expand the heart and cancer services our communities need and truly become residents’ first choice for health.”

The Auxiliary has donated more than the \$1 million to the health center since it was chartered by the Bothwell Regional Health Center Board of Trustees in June 1971. More than 150 people volunteer their time at the health center through the Auxiliary. Membership in the Auxiliary is open to those interested in the health center.

“The Auxiliary has a long history of supporting many projects at the health center,” said Bothwell Regional Health Center President and Chief Executive

Officer John Dawes. “Their gift will leave a life-long legacy for this hospital and its patients.”

The Foundation has already raised \$1.88 million, more than half of its goal, through donations from community leaders, hospital employees and volunteers, the Foundation board and its Capital Campaign Steering Committee, the BRHC Board of Trustees, and physicians.

People interested in learning more about what they can do to enhance cancer and cardiovascular services in Pettis and Benton counties may contact Foundation Director Melia Douglass at 660-826-6263. All gifts, including stock or property, are tax deductible. The Foundation also accepts donations online soon at www.brhc.org.

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Bothwell Regional Health Center Foundation was formed in 2005 to develop relationships and resources to financially support the health center. The Foundation receives contributions from patients, employees, physicians, volunteers, and friends in the region. These gifts help equip the health center with the latest medical technology, provide scholarships and on-going employee training, develop new services, and fund important health-related initiatives.

Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 180-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopaedic, cardiovascular, women's health, and therapy services. More information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services is available on its website at www.brhc.org.