

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

**Lisa Church
660-829-7788
lgchurch@brhc.org**

May 24, 2012

BOTHWELL LEADERS DISCUSS POLICY AGENDA WITH CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

SEDALIA - Representatives from Bothwell Regional Health Center and the Missouri Hospital Association recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with Missouri's congressional delegation and share their views on health-care issues.

Bothwell President and CEO John Dawes, Board of Trustees Chairman Robert Rollings, and Board Secretary Glen Nelson met with lawmakers to discuss the need for stability and predictability in the rapidly shifting health-care landscape.

"Most hospitals, including Bothwell, receive a significant portion of their revenues from federal or state programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and TriCare," said Dawes. "The ongoing spending debate and constantly changing policy directives make short- and long-term planning for rural hospitals like ours difficult."

The hospital leaders also discussed pending legislation intended to address drug shortages plaguing hospitals and pharmacies nationwide and impacting patient care.

"We want Missouri's congressional delegation to understand how their actions affect our ability to provide health care in our service area," Rollings said. "The health-care landscape is changing every day, and we are working diligently to understand and implement these changes."

###

Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 140-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopedic, cardiovascular, women's health, and therapy services. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the Web site at www.brhc.org or follow us on Facebook.

The Missouri Hospital Association is a not-for-profit membership association in Jefferson City that represents 154 Missouri hospitals. Information about MHA programs and services is available online at www.mhanet.com.