

# NEWS RELEASE

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## HOSPITALS FORM NETWORK TO IMPROVE HEALTH-CARE ACCESS, BETTER COORDINATE CARE FOR PATIENTS

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia, Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City, Hannibal Regional Healthcare System, Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach and University of Missouri Health Care in Columbia have formed a collaborative network to improve access and better coordinate health care for patients in the communities they serve.

The five founding members of the Health Network of Missouri have more than 1,000 hospital beds, more than 9,300 employees and approximately 1,000 employed and affiliated physicians. They serve patients in adjacent counties throughout central and northeast Missouri.

“The nation’s health-care delivery system is changing rapidly,” said Harold A. Williamson Jr., M.D., executive vice chancellor of health affairs for the University of Missouri. “Hospitals and health systems must be innovative in developing ways to improve the health of populations, enhance the experience and outcomes of patients, and reduce per capita cost of care for the benefit of communities.”

The Health Network of Missouri is structured to allow members to work together as partners on common goals while enabling each hospital or health system to serve the health-care needs of its own community and preserve its independence and unique identity. Each system will have equal representation in governance of the network.



Glen Nelson, left, vice chair of the Bothwell Regional Health Center Board of Trustees, participates in the announcement about Bothwell joining with four other Missouri hospitals to form the Health Network of Missouri. Dr. Harold A. Williamson Jr., right, executive vice chancellor of health affairs for the University of Missouri, also participated in the announcement. Nelson was elected secretary/treasurer of the network.

The five health systems will work together to share best practices in business, clinical and operational practices. The work of the network will be conducted by task forces comprised of leaders and physicians from each health system. Major initiatives of the Health Network of Missouri task forces will include:

- Continuing to improve the health outcomes of the patients we serve
- Sharing data and best practices
- Improving access to care
- Ensuring patient care among various providers is coordinated seamlessly through a clinically integrated network
- Lowering health-care costs and creating efficiencies that will benefit the patients and communities served by network members

“Bothwell Regional Health Center’s goal in joining the Health Network of Missouri is to continue to ensure our patients receive exceptional care,” said President and CEO John Dawes. “While remaining independent, the hospitals and health systems in this network will be in a position to drive positive change and improve health care for the patients in our communities.”

The network’s organizational meeting was held June 25.

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### **About Bothwell Regional Health Center**

Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 145-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopedic, cardiovascular, women's health, and therapy services. The organization also operates 13 primary and specialty care locations. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the web site at [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org) or follow us on Facebook.

### **About Capital Region Medical Center**

Capital Region Medical Center, located in Jefferson City, Missouri is an affiliate hospital of University of Missouri Health Care, and encompasses a full service hospital, a comprehensive cancer program at Goldschmidt Cancer Center, and an expansive clinic system covering eight counties. Within the hospital, the Inpatient Rehabilitation Center is one of the few accredited hospital-based rehabilitation centers in the state. Capital Region’s fitness facility, the Sam B. Cook Healthplex is the community’s only hospital-based, medically directed fitness facility and is home to adult and pediatric outpatient therapy services. From prenatal and obstetric care to orthopaedic and cardiovascular services, Capital Region provides

innovative health care, advancing its mission to improve the health and wellness of the people and communities it serves. For more information, visit [www.crmc.org](http://www.crmc.org).

### **About Hannibal Regional Healthcare System**

Hannibal Regional Healthcare System is the parent organization of [Hannibal Regional Hospital](#), [Hannibal Regional Medical Group](#) and [Hannibal Regional Hospital Foundation](#). Hannibal Regional Hospital is a 91-bed acute care hospital providing comprehensive health and wellness services to more than 125,000 residents in the tri-state area and has been recognized by Healthgrades as a 2013 and 2014 Outstanding Patient Experience Award recipient – ranking HRH among the top 10 percent in the nation for patient care. Hannibal Regional Medical Group is a growing multi-specialty physician group delivering primary, specialty and express care services at nine locations in Missouri and Illinois. For more information on Hannibal Regional Healthcare System, visit [www.hannibalhealth.org](http://www.hannibalhealth.org).

### **About Lake Regional Health System**

Lake Regional Health System in Osage Beach, Mo., provides comprehensive health care services for residents and visitors in a five-county region surrounding the Lake of the Ozarks. The hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission and is a three-time recipient of the Missouri Quality Award. Lake Regional also operates 26 clinics, including primary, specialty and urgent care, as well as rehab therapy clinics, retail pharmacies and home health services throughout the lake area. To learn more, visit <http://www.lakeregional.com>.

### **About University of Missouri Health Care**

As part of the state's premier academic medical center, University of Missouri Health Care offers a full spectrum of care, ranging from primary care to highly specialized, multidisciplinary treatment for patients with the most severe illnesses and injuries. Patients from each of Missouri's 114 counties are served by approximately 6,000 physicians, nurses and health care professionals at MU Health Care. For more information, visit <http://www.muhealth.org/>.