

# NEWS RELEASE

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## BOTHWELL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES CO-CHAIRS FOR COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

SEDALIA, MO – Two community leaders are co-chairing a committee devoted to garnering support for expansions in cardiac and cancer care.

Shirley Evans and Bob Berlin are the community committee co-chairs of the Bothwell Regional Health Center Foundation “For Your Health, Close to Home” capital campaign. The campaign hopes to raise \$3.5 million to benefit the expansion of Bothwell’s cardiovascular and cancer centers, which will be built on the east side of the hospital.

As community co-chairs, Evans and Berlin recruit others to help with the campaign and make contributions. Evans and Berlin were asked to serve as co-chairs of the community committee because of their knowledge of the community and its residents, according to Foundation Director Melia Douglass.

“We know that people talking to each other one-on-one is the best way to share the vision of the cancer and cardiovascular centers,” Douglass said. “We need as many people on board as possible to make that happen, and Shirley and Bob are great people to head up this effort.”

Evans, who is also a member of Bothwell’s Board of Trustees and the Foundation board, retired from State Fair Community College after serving as the vice president of instructional services. She believes health care, like education, is an important part of the community. The expansion of the cancer and cardiovascular centers is vital to providing needed services close to home and essential in the recruitment of doctors, Evans said.

“I do feel the project is very much needed, and we want our community to step up and support it,” she said. “Everyone should contribute what they can. I think all of us can help in our own way.”

Berlin, a native Sedalian and businessman, also understands the importance of quality health care to the community and its growth.

The incidence of heart disease and cancer in Pettis and Benton Counties is greater than in most other counties in Missouri. Bothwell has seen a 23 percent increase in demand for cancer treatment in the past three years, and treatment levels for chemotherapy have more than doubled since 2005. The mortality rate due to heart disease is higher among Pettis and Benton County residents than the national average.

Others serving as team leaders on the community committee are: Pat Rinehart, Eldon Kreisel, Rob and Beverly Rollings and David and Libby Callis. Elle Wasson and Mary Jo Sartin are also helping with the community portion of the campaign.

"I am very grateful for the efforts of the community team leaders who are working diligently to spread the word to their friends and neighbors in the community," Berlin said.

All gifts, including stock or property, are tax deductible. 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. The Foundation also accepts donations online at [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org).

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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, orthopedic, endovascular/cardiac, 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](http://www.brhc.org).