



American Recovery and
Reinvestment Act of 2009



NEWS RELEASE

Contact

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OFFICIALS GATHER TO OBSERVE CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS ON JOHNSON COUNTY WESTERN MISSOURI MEDICAL CENTER EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS FUNDED BY AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

In a ceremony on August 25, 2010, Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, State Director, USDA Rural Development, observed the progress of construction on expansion and improvements at Western Missouri Medical Center. At that time she presented officials with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of Western Missouri Medical Center and their efforts to stimulate the economy by utilizing loan funds of \$34,000,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program. UMB Bank, N.A. provided

joint financing with a Guaranteed Community Facility loan for \$14,000,000 to complete the work. Western Missouri Medical Center contributed \$6,009,449 to the total cost. These USDA Rural Development funds will finance the construction of a two-story tower featuring 72 private rooms, expand the Radiology Department, renovate the existing facility and make campus improvements.



Pictured, left to right, front row: Bill Ennis, Project Superintendent, JE Dunn; Bill Gagne, Assistant Superintendent, JE Dunn. Middle row: John Smolen, WMMC, COO; Mike Kaker, WMMC, Director of Plant Services; Jennifer Koepke, WMMC, Director of Quality/Risk; Kurt Broeckelmann, Principal, HMN Architects; Terri Bradley, WMMC, Director of Accounting; Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, MO State Director, USDA Rural Development; Shannon Baird, Senior Project Manager, JE Dunn; Steve Higgins, WMMC Board Trustee; Dori Ellis, WMMC, CNO; Craig J. Marks, WMMC, President/CEO; Dennis Long, WMMC, Director of Human Resources. Back row: Chirs Grant, Project Manager, JE Dunn; Justin Franklin, Project Manager, JE Dunn; Michael Misko, M.D., WMMC, CMO; Greg Razer, Field Representative, Office of U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; David Pearce; MO State Senator, 31st District; Kelly Gregory, Area III Director, USDA Rural Development; Denny Hoskins, MO State Representative, 121st District; Roberta Nienhueser, WMMC, CFO.

Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC), originally built in 1964, is operated and managed as a fully-accredited acute care county hospital. A not-for-profit county health care system, WMMC offers comprehensive health care services to residents of Johnson County and west central Missouri. The hospital's primary mission is to provide healthcare to the residents of its service area. The hospital earns revenues from services provided to patients and is partially supported by appropriations from Johnson County.

“Ensuring the citizens of Johnson County have access to quality health care facilities is critical to the well-being of the community,” U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. “I’m glad to hear that with the help of a low-interest loan, the Western Missouri Medical Center will be able to expand and improve their facilities in order to better serve those in need of medical care.”

“As a native of Lafayette County, I know how difficult it can be for Missourians from rural areas to access the health care that they need. I am so pleased that, with this loan, the Western Missouri Medical Center will be able to expand and provide more services to patients in the surrounding communities,” said U.S. Representative Ike Skelton.

“This is a great partnership effort when everyone works together for a common goal of meeting the essential needs of a community,” said Dunning. “This project mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Obama’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that so many rural households will benefit from an updated health care facility.”

Dunning added, “Appreciation is also extended to our federal elected officials for supporting the USDA Rural Development programs. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

Anyone seeking more information about the water and wastewater programs or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.gov/mo> or by contacting the Clinton Area Office at 1306 North 2nd Street, Clinton, MO 64735 or by calling (660)885-5567 ext 5.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).