

KEEPING HEALTH CARE LOCAL

Outline Of Need: The Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Norfolk held the financial interest in the Providence Medical Center in Wayne, Neb. The Missionary Benedictine Sisters wanted to focus their ministry on spirituality rather than health care and so they were looking for someone to purchase the medical center.

How Rural Development Helped: Citizens National Bank of Laurel provided a \$2.5 million loan to Providence Medical Center with USDA Rural Development providing the guarantee through its' Community Facility Guaranteed Loan program. With the loan and funds from Providence Medical Center the hospital was purchased from the Missionary Benedictine Sisters.

"I am glad that the Citizens National Bank of Laurel was able to provide the financing which allowed for the sale of the hospital from the Missionary Benedictine Sisters to Providence Medical Center. This was an important project not only for the City of Wayne, but for all of the surrounding area. The USDA guarantee made it possible for Citizens to help with this project."--Assistant Vice President Bill Hefner, Citizens National Bank.

The Results:

Providence Medical Center (PMC) is a critical access hospital that employs nearly 170 individuals. The 25 bed acute care hospital provides quality health care in response to the needs of its local, rural communities. PMC furnishes acute, skilled/swing-bed, and

"This is a momentous time for Providence Medical Center, as well as the entire northeast Nebraska community. From the beginning, this has been a "community" project, and we have concentrated on the preservation of and implications for economic development for our entire area. Bill Hefner of the Citizens National Bank of Laurel is to be commended for his financial ingenuity and willingness to work with Providence Medical Center."-- Providence Medical Center Administrator Marcile Thomas.

intermediate care, as well as Medicare certified home health, hospice, and private pay person care. Palliative care is also available. Outreach clinics are held in Wisner, Wakefield, and Laurel. With the change of ownership remaining in the community and area, this medical facility will enhance health care to the area, keeping the local economy stable and retaining many local jobs.

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