



Belton Regional Medical Center

Awards and Recognitions

Belton Regional Medical Center celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2009. The hospital provides healthcare services to communities in northern Cass and southern Jackson counties. Community support for the hospital has continued to grow as Raymore, Peculiar, Belton and Grandview have all prospered.

A Community Bands Together

Belton Regional Medical Center wasn't always a hospital. Before 1984, the only access to emergency facilities that area residents had was an Emergency Center in a triple-wide trailer. During the week, emergency care had to occur between 5 p.m. and 1 a.m., although the weekends had around-the-clock access. Local communities knew this wasn't sufficient medical care, and so began the process of phasing out the trailer and phasing in a real hospital, with real buildings and quality, convenient emergency care.

The Seed is Planted

Research Medical Center responded to a request of Belton's city council in 1982. Research Medical Center would investigate healthcare needs in the Belton-Raymore-Grandview-Peculiar area and determine if the need existed for a 75-bed hospital. This partnership produced an application for a certificate of need with the Missouri Health Facilities Review Committee.

The community formed a health services committee with Mayor Gary Mallory spearheading the movement. Together, they presented the case to state officials and rallied to gather community support. More than 400 letters were collected supporting a community hospital. Two bus loads of supporters went with Mayor Mallory to Jefferson City when he defended the Certificate of Need.

Mayor Mallory – and his supporters – won. By one vote.

A Hospital Grows

Research Medical Center de-licensed 75 beds so that the new Belton Regional Medical Center could open its doors on August 27, 1984. Kirk Ridley, MD, of Belton Family Practice in Belton was the first physician to admit a patient to the hospital; she was the mother of Ed Fleetwood, Belton. The Belton Regional Medical Center medical office building opened a year later in 1985.

For the hospital's fifth anniversary celebration, Mayor Mallory wrote, "The [Belton Regional Medical Center] hospital is an ever-growing presence in the community. [...] It's a partnership, and we as a community have to be a strong part of that." And they are: the community has supported Belton Regional Medical Center, through fund-raising events during the early years to provide equipment and supplies.

Continuous Renewal

Since then, many changes and advancements in care have prompted continuous renovation and enhancement to Belton Regional Medical Center. In January 2009, the hospital opened a new imaging center with advanced technology including new CT and MRI capabilities, digital mammography, nuclear medicine and picture and image archiving equipment.

The hospital has doubled in size in only 25 years and now sees more than 18,000 patients annually in its Emergency Department. Additionally, Belton Regional Medical Center is continually adding more staff and services to meet the needs of the community, such as gastrointestinal studies, pain management options, sleep studies, cardiology services, oncology/hematology services, pulmonary and respiratory services, neurology studies, rehabilitative services, a comprehensive laboratory, and general, orthopedic and gynecologic surgery.

Because of the continued support of the local communities, Belton Regional Medical Center stands proudly as a full-service healthcare facility. Each year brings new advancements, new options and new treatments available for patients. More patients recognize Belton Regional Medical Center each year as a center for excellent healthcare. We are proud to be an integral part of the community's prosperity, and look forward to the years ahead.

