

DCMH CEO Highlights Hospital Achievements, Challenges



Greensburg Rotarian Rex McKinney, President and CEO of Decatur County Memorial Hospital (DCMH), gave his annual update on the status of Decatur County’s primary medical services provider, highlighting both its applaudable achievements and the looming challenges it faces.

McKinney began his presentation by stressing the importance of a small hospital like DCMH connecting with the community it serves, providing viable options for the medical

needs of the residents. This is because the financial viability of a hospital is driven by competition that gives the community the option to go elsewhere for care. McKinney was happy to report that last year DCMH “had record high volumes in ambulatory services” or outpatient services. “That was a great sign that we’re connecting with our community,” he said.

McKinney also highlighted the community health screening fairs put on by DCMH staff, saying the men’s health screening last year had a record high attendance of almost 80 individuals. He also pointed out that 30 percent of the free screenings provided last year identified findings of which the recipient was unaware and required follow-up health care.

The staff at DCMH is also a key to community engagement. Regarding volunteer hours provided to the local community, McKinney said, “We approached nearly 3,000 hours this past year of our team doing things in the community.” In addition, over 4,000 members of the community attended events put on and staffed by DCMH personnel in 2021.

Financially, DCMH not only provides over 530 paid positions in the local community, with a payroll of nearly \$30M per year, but also benefits the community by giving about \$6M in charity care. “That’s for individuals who just simply can’t afford their copay,” said McKinney.

On quality of services provided, McKinney said, “The promise we make to the community, we have to monitor. So we really watch our quality very closely.” Reflecting on the 5-star rating DCMH received two years ago through the government’s Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, he said they were very proud of that achievement which is obtained by only 10% of hospitals nationally, but that they’d seen a drop to a four-star rating last year. “COVID was very, very challenging,” he said, elaborating that, during the pandemic, the patient experience slipped a bit. “We made some decisions that impacted our patient experience,” said McKinney, “One of the decisions was we had to have contract nurses in the building - about half our (nursing) staff.” He explained that contract nurses usually come from outside the community and may not be as engaged with local patients. They are also “expensive”, adding strain to the hospital’s budget. However, since July of 2021, DCMH is back to operating without any contract nurses.

(DCMH Cont’d on Pg 2)

ROTARY CALENDAR

- Feb 17 - BOARD MEETING @ the Branch (0745a)
- Feb 20 - Mayor Marsh - State of the City
- Feb 27 - Tyler Reiger - Halderman Companies
- [New Meeting Cycle Begins]
- Mar 06 - TBD

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GREENSBURG ROTARY PRESIDENT’S CHAT

Hey, friends!

It’s great to be back with you this week! I missed you last Monday. If you missed our meeting this week, fellow Rotarian Rex McKinney from Decatur County Memorial Hospital presented on all the great things happening within their facility. I’m grateful for all they do for our community. And as a look ahead at next week, we will welcome another Rotarian, Mayor Joshua Marsh, to deliver his State of the City Address. This is a Rotary tradition every year, so you won’t want to miss it. Lastly, no one has turned in their Membership Bingo card to me yet. Just a reminder that \$100 Visa gift card is up for grabs, so don’t wait!

Have a great week, everyone. You are loved!

Best Alex



Mark your calendars NOW!

Annual Archery Tournament Fundraiser - April 22d



(DCMH Cont'd From Pg 1) McKinney went on to discuss the recent changes and updates to DCMH facilities and services. Pointing out that DCMH celebrated its centennial last year, he said of the on-going changes, "We really want to make an impression and leave our legacy for the next 100 years." Recent changes include improvements to the south parking lot for access, employee parking, and better lighting. There is also the ongoing construction of the hospital's new, \$10M rehabilitation facility, which saw a cost increase due to inflation as well as some delays due to supply chain issues. "Who would have thought there'd be an issue with concrete availability?" McKinney quipped.

To help offset the costs for the new facility, the Hospital Foundation of Decatur County launched a new capital campaign called "Strengthening Our Future" with the goal of raising \$1.2M. With options for donations of any size, including legacy donations with naming rights, 100% of the capital campaign's receipts will go toward the new building.

DCMH also opened its new fitness trail for the community last year. "It's a fantastic addition to the campus," McKinney said, "a part of our health and wellness approach." He said that, as a result of generous donations by members of the community, the hospital had only had to invest about \$10,000 in the project.

DCMH has also moved into its shared facilities at the Decatur County YMCA and finished aesthetic and modernization upgrades to its Tree City Plaza facility.

On the medical technology front, DCMH upgraded some of its high-end equipment to improve quality of services and scheduling. This included a second, \$700k CAT Scan machine to reduce patient wait times, as the first machine was booked out "100% of the time." They also installed a new, \$1.5M MRI system that provides increased capability and higher resolution for improved diagnostics.

Despite these accomplishments, McKinney acknowledged that there are challenges facing DCMH and other smaller hospitals in the nation, and financial stability tops the list. McKinney said that hospitals operate on essentially a "fixed revenue," and that inflation had impacted DCMH's expenses. "Last year about 70 percent of the nation's hospitals lost money," he said, "and were one of them." He said that costs had gone up 7-14% on medical supplies. While DCMH's finances are still a challenge, he said, "we're back on track for January (2023)." McKinney said that challenging economic times seem to come in cycles, and he was grateful that DCMH had a "rainy day fund" to weather this one. "We're going to come through this; we're going to be just fine," he said.

On the political front, McKinney said health care in Indiana had become a focus issue for the legislature. "They are very set on being aggressive with healthcare, particularly around pricing," said McKinney. He clarified that this was not an attack on hospitals like DCMH, but was focused on the larger hospital systems that have a greater influence on service pricing. "They have more robust services that they have to pay for," said McKinney, "But the business community is highly critical of some of their pricing." As a result, there is some legislation being proposed to fix pricing increases and punish hospitals that have pricing that is "too aggressive."

Despite these challenges, DCMH continues to find avenues to improve services and facilities. Partnering with other, smaller hospital systems allows DCMH to share costs and capabilities. They have also increased availability of contract services, including with Whitewater Eye. This addition means Decatur County went from zero cataract procedures in 2000 to over 700 just last year.

GREENSBURG ROTARY BEGINS A NEW MEETING FORMAT IN MARCH 23!

In response to the member reengagement discussion hosted by District Membership Chair Bryan Hane at the 23 Jan meeting, as well as follow-on discussions by the appointed membership committee, Greensburg Rotary will begin a new meeting format cycle in March 23 to refresh how we meet and reengage with existing and new club members. The new meeting format is as follows:

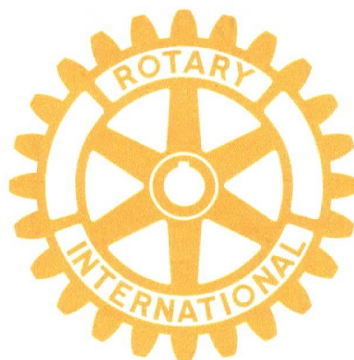
- **1st and 3d Mondays:** A traditional meeting with guest speakers presenting relevant, local topics
- **2d Monday:** A pre-determined service project that may occur on any day/time that week
- **4th Monday:** A social gathering highlighting networking and fellowship within the club
- **5th Monday:** Our fun and successful meet-up at the Greenburg Pizza King

Be sure to keep tabs on meeting days, times, and locations by:

- **Attending weekly Greensburg Rotary Meetings in person or via Zoom ([LINK HERE](#))**
- **Viewing the Rotary Program Calendar online ([LINK HERE](#))**
- **Reading the Rotary Calendar included on Page 1 of the Greensburg Rotary Bulletin**

SEE YOU AT ROTARY!!

Rotary
Club of Greensburg



2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP BINGO

Over the next year, our Club will be participating in a fun competition with a goal of recruiting new members for our Rotary Fam!

Here are the rules:

- Just like normal Bingo, you must fill in 5 spaces in a row. You can go up and down, side to side, or diagonally.
- You can not use the same person for more than one box. If your insurance agent is also your friend, pick a box. Hopefully, you have more than one friend!
- The box will not count as "filled in" until you have made at least one contact. Fill in the date on the "Contact" line, and use the "Follow Up" line for your convenience.
- Maintain records of all your interactions. If you claim to be the winner, you've got to prove it because prizes are at stake!
- Most of all, HAVE FUN!

Prizes:

- \$100 Visa gift card for the first card returned to Alex
- \$25 gift card to a local establishment for each completed card
- Free lunch every time you bring a guest
- Free membership for a year if you recruit a new member

A Family Member Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Pastor/ Priest/Clergy Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Insurance Agent Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	A Perfect Stranger Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	A Nonprofit Leader Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____
An Entrepreneur Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone in the Trades Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Beautician/ Stylist Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	A First Responder Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone Under Age 30 Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____
Someone I Volunteer With Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Server/Barista Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Free Space: Invite Anyone Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone Over Age 50 Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone in Retail Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____
A Friend Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Lived Here <5 Years Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone in Agriculture Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Boss/Coworker Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	A Customer Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____
My Neighbor Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Someone in a New Career Field Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Went to Same HS/College Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	Retired with a Lot of Wisdom Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____	My Competitor Name: _____ Contact: _____ Follow Up: _____