FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

summer 2024

Midland Memorial Hospital awarded prestigious recognitions

Modern Healthcare





Midland Memorial Hospital has recently been recognized in several areas! The hospital is proud to announce that it has been awarded a prestigious **Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade of B**, reflecting the institution's commitment to patient safety and high-quality healthcare. Midland Memorial Hospital's attainment of a Leapfrog Score of B is a testament to its ongoing efforts to prioritize patient safety and deliver exceptional healthcare services.

"We are thrilled to receive a Leapfrog Score of B, as it reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire healthcare team," said Stephen Bowerman, President and Chief Executive Officer at Midland Health. "The work isn't done, we are proud of this achievement but will continue the ongoing commitment to prioritize patient safety and deliver high-quality healthcare services to our community."

In addition, and in a remarkable demonstration of commitment to excellence, Midland Memorial Hospital has been named a **Recognized Leader in Caring for People Living with Diabetes.** This first-of-its-kind designation, bestowed by The Leapfrog Group in collaboration with the American Diabetes Association (ADA), recognizes hospitals that meet the most rigorous standards for delivering safe, high-quality care to patients with diabetes. Among this elite group, MMH stands out as one of just 17 hospitals across the U.S. to achieve this distinction in 2024.

Dr. Robert Gabbay, M.D., Chief Scientific and Medical Officer at the American Diabetes Association, emphasized the importance of this recognition. "Hospitals recognized through this program are leading the way."

Midland Memorial Hospital has also recently been recognized as one of the 2023 Best Places to Work in Healthcare. "An uncertain economy, staffing shortages and increasing demands for flexibility and remote work opportunities are forcing every business in the industry to focus on attracting and retaining talent in unprecedented ways," said Dan Peres, president of Modern Healthcare. "The 2023 Best Places to Work winners proved the value of understanding what employees want - and need - today. The healthcare industry is going through a period of extraordinary change. Having the right people in place is more critical than ever, and the winning workplaces understand that taking care of employees is central to business success."

"Proud is an understatement. The cultural foundation of our organization combined with our employee's dedication is why Midland Memorial Hospital is and will continue to be a great place to work," said Stephen Bowerman, "This honor is just one more way we are leading healthcare for greater Midland," Bowerman added.

Other recent honors bestowed on MMH include being named to **Becker's 150 Best Hospitals** list, which highlights hospitals, health systems and healthcare companies that prioritize workplace excellence and the happiness, satisfaction, wellbeing and fulfillment of their employees, as well as an **ACEP Silver Designation** awarded to the emergency department. Midland Memorial's emergency department was the only one in the region and the only Level 2 ED in the state to be awarded this designation.



Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center: May 2024

The future Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center (PBBHC) is beginning to take shape as the first major element of The Beacon development at SH 191 and FM 1788 in northwest Midland County. The building pad has been completed, including 141,000 tons of dirt moved onto the site to raise the facility's elevation, and underground utility work has begun. Bidding has been completed for Phase 2, including all remaining elements of construction. On April 19, 2024, the Texas Facilities Commission approved the project's guaranteed maximum price (GMP) of \$194.5 million, including both Phase 2 bids and the original \$57.2 million included in Phase 1.

The approved GMP is about \$5 million higher than anticipated. Illustrating the ongoing challenges associated with major construction in the Permian Basin, only one local company (actually based in Snyder) submitted a successful bid, out of the 15 major subcontracts awarded on the project. Only one other local company submitted a bid, and the selected subcontractors are coming from as far away as Olathe, Kansas and Jackson, Mississippi.

Due to the project's expansion to 200 beds and a variety of necessary redesign efforts intended to minimize expected cost overruns, construction is now expected to be completed in February, 2026. Allowing 6-8 weeks for training and startup activities, PBBHC's target opening date has moved to April, 2026. While this date is several months later than the original projection, the project will benefit from additional time to develop its workforce in cooperation with our local educational institutions.

Approximately \$216 million has been formally committed to the project by the State, local government, regional foundations and private individuals. Fundraising efforts



Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center on-site progress, May 2024







are continuing, primarily focused on the funding of furniture, fixtures, equipment and startup costs for the new facility. Due to the tremendous generosity of our donors, most of the pledged contributions have been received and invested, adding meaningful interest earnings to PBBHC's funding and decreasing the remaining fundraising target to about \$12 million.

Thanks to our community leaders' foresight in beginning pursuit of a regional solution nearly 10 years ago, the Permian Basin will soon be served by a high-quality, comprehensive behavioral health center.



Midland Memorial Foundation Scholarship 2024 Graduates

The Midland Memorial Foundation Nursing Scholarship Program continues to strengthen the nursing workforce at Midland Health by providing scholarships to empower nurses pursuing an advanced nursing degree. Established in 1978, the program has distributed hundreds of scholarships to qualified Midland Health nurses. It is because of donors like you, this vital program has been able to lift some of the financial burden often encountered when seeking a higher education. With the continued support of generous individuals, organizations, and foundations,

Midland Health nurses can enhance their skills to manage the ongoing challenges in healthcare.

Please join Midland Memorial Foundation in congratulating the 2024 Nursing Education Scholarship graduates. Their academic achievements are a testament to their hard work and dedication to healthcare. We have no doubt that they will continue to excel and make valuable contributions to Midland Health and beyond.



Tanner Barnt BSN



Kaylea Gideon BSN



Julie Green
Doctorate's of Nursing Practice



Mayra Hollis BSRC



Kimberly Chourio Herrera Associate Degree in Nursing



Kaden Kalt BSN



Jennifer Palmer BSN



Isabel Torres BSN



Xavier Torres Doctorate's of Nursing Practice

Not Pictured: Christian Isaac Yanez - BSRC



The Center for Serious Illness and Supportive Care: Enhancing Patient Care at Midland Memorial Hospital

Last fall, Midland Memorial Hospital officially launched a specialty in-patient palliative care service line as part of the Center for Serious Illness and



Dr. Adriana Nur Medical Director



Kathryn Lagus APRN, FNP-c, MSN

Supportive Care. Last month, a new clinic space with Dr. Adriana Nur as Medical Director, was opened to house the in-patient palliative care team and the up-and-coming community based program that will focus on serving those with serious and/or complex illnesses. This program, led by Kathryn Lagus, APRN, FNP-c, MSN, is dedicated to providing a personalized extra layer of support to patients, their identified families, and their caregivers. It is focused on improving their quality of life and ensuring that the care received in each and every setting is aligned with what is most important to them. At its core, both specialized and generalist palliative care are about honoring the dignity of every human being. As Dame Cicely Saunders, the founder of serious illness management, once said, "You matter because you are you, and you matter to the end of your life."



Expanding Our Reach: Community-Based Serious Illness Management

The Center for Serious Illness is excited to announce that it will soon be expanding its program into the community. While the details of the program are still being developed, it already includes a combination of services. The expansion aims to bring the highest level of care and support directly to patients, in their homes and other community settings, before they need higher levels of care, ensuring that more individuals can benefit from the extra layers of support that serious illness management provides, regardless of their location.

The Center for Serious Illness and Supportive Care at Midland Memorial Hospital is naturally aligned with the hospital's mission to lead healthcare for greater Midland and the vision for Midland to "be the healthiest community in Texas." It is in this spirit that we hope to build a program that honors the core values of the hospital-those of a pioneer spirit, and a caring heart.

The opening of The Center for Serious Illness and Supportive Care marks a significant step forward for Midland Memorial Hospital; it is the beginning of a new chapter, and it is most exciting to think about the opportunities we have before us. By expanding into community-based serious illness management, we are making promises to the community that they matter to us and that we are committed to providing comprehensive patient-centered care that meets their diverse needs.

This program improves the quality of life for our patients and their families, ensuring that support is available whenever and wherever it is needed. Through the community-based program, we hope to grow existing partnerships within the community and beyond, realizing the vision of a healthier Midland one patient experience at a time.

Thank you, again, to all of you who support this program, our hospital, and our community. We look forward to working with all of you in the future to make this program one that people are proud of and want to support.

The Center for Serious Illness and Supportive Care is designed to be:

- **Consistent Across Transitions:** Ensuring seamless care during changes in health status or transition of care across in-patient and out-patient settings.
- **Broadly Available:** Accessible to all patients, regardless of where they live or receive healthcare, provides services that can assist them with their needs 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **Prognosis-Independent:** Focused on individual (patient-centered) need rather than disease stage or prognosis (Patients are NOT their diagnosis (es).
- **Collaborative and Coordinated:** Facilitates communication among healthcare providers to streamline and improve patient care; delivered by an interdisciplinary team with regular assessment and care planning.

For more information, please feel free to contact Kathryn Lagus at 432.221.5485 or kathryn.lagus@midlandhealth.org.

Thank You for Your Generous Contributions

Cumulative contributions received by Midland Memorial Foundation between February 1, 2024 through May 22, 2024.

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