



OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center expanding emergency department to meet community needs

For immediate release

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(GALESBURG, Illinois | October 3, 2024) – In response to the growing needs of its community, OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center is expanding its emergency department. The \$5 million expansion will add 7,000 square feet to the existing space, including one additional triage room and six additional treatment rooms.

The expansion will enhance the ability of Mission Partners to serve patients through innovative space planning to improve efficiencies and connection throughout care delivery.

"OSF HealthCare remains invested and dedicated to providing exceptional care for our rural communities, which is something we've done for over 115 years in the Galesburg community," said Lisa DeKezel, president of OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center. "This redesign is a crucial step in enhancing the quality care we deliver, elevating patient experiences, and addressing the evolving needs of our community."

Construction is set to begin by the end of 2024 and is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete. During the project, the emergency department will remain open and fully operational, ensuring uninterrupted care for patients. However, during the initial phase, patients arriving by car may be re-routed to a nearby adjacent entrance. Signage will be posted to guide patients accordingly.

"While there will be some inconveniences during construction, the end result will be a vastly improved experience for our patients, visitors, and Mission Partners," said Lisa DeKezel, president of OSF HealthCare St. Mary Medical Center.

OSF HealthCare remains committed to "serving persons with the greatest care and love" in the spirit of Christ and following the example of Francis of Assisi. The OSF St. Mary Medical Center emergency department redesign reflects this mission.

OSF HealthCare is an integrated health system founded by The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis. Headquartered in Peoria, Illinois, OSF HealthCare has 16 hospitals – 10 acute care, five critical access, 1 transitional care - with 2,131 licensed beds throughout Illinois and Michigan. OSF employs nearly 24,000 Mission Partners across 150+ locations; has two colleges of nursing; operates OSF Home Care Services, an extensive network of home health and hospice services; owns Pointcore, Inc., comprised of health care-related businesses; OSF HealthCare Foundation, the philanthropic arm for the organization; and OSF Ventures, which provides investment capital for promising health care innovation startups. In 2020, OSF OnCall was established, a digital health operating unit, including a hospital-at-home. OSF OnCall delivers care and services when, where and how patients prefer to receive them. OSF HealthCare has

been recognized by *Fortune* as one of the most innovative companies in the country. More at osfhealthcare.org/.

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