

New Hospital Project (Chrysalis Project) Frequently Asked Questions

Question: What happens to my donation/pledge if the new hospital does not move forward?

Donations and pledges that have been given toward the new hospital project will be marked accordingly. Should the decision be made at some point not to build the new hospital, donors will be contacted to ask if they would like to redirect their donation/pledge to a new project or if donations should be returned and any remaining pledge amount be removed.

Question: What does the new hospital look like?

The new eighteen bed Critical Access Hospital (CAH) will be approximately 65,000 square feet and include all the services we currently provide, with increased capacity for outpatient services including surgical services and infusion therapy. It is designed with a focus on exceptional patient care and operational efficiencies. There will be a single community entrance, as well as separate public spaces designed to provide a great patient experience and provide a high level of security for patients and staff. All departments are designed to be able to grow easily in the future. Renderings of the outside and a few inside areas can be viewed at www.McKenzieHealth.org/Build.

Question: When will construction begin and end?

Construction will begin once funding is in place. The project is scheduled to break ground in July/August of 2024. Once started, the building project is estimated to take 16-18 months. **Due to the funding process of the USDA, as well as other factors which may be outside of our control, this is only an estimate.**

Question: Will it increase capacity and services?

The new hospital includes increased capacity in terms of space and services. This allows us to add services now as well as easily expand the building in the future if needed. The current building is 43,612 square feet compared to the new facility which will be approximately 65,000 square feet.

Question: Why are we building when we just remodeled?

The remodel performed with Federal COVID dollars addressed very specific departments and concerns for the short term. It was a steppingstone to improving safety until we were able to move forward with a new facility to address all issues and departments.



Question: What will be done with the old hospital?

The focus has been on developing the new facility plan. Once approved and the construction begins, we will shift the focus to the current building, evaluating community needs and potential uses of the building.

Question: What stage are we in?

We are in the USDA loan application submission stage. While the USDA is reviewing our application, we will continue finishing the other elements that will hopefully result in a “shovel in the ground” in late summer or early fall.

Question: Do you think we will get more specialists if we have better facilities?

Having a newer facility, designed to accommodate the latest technology and advancements in medicine, will be attractive to physicians and could potentially be a recruiting tool. McKenzie has a number of quality specialists providing care to the community and we will continue to evaluate the need to bring on additional specialties.

Question: How much will it cost?

The current estimate is \$68,000,000; however, that pricing will be finalized once the final budget is completed in cooperation with the construction management team.

Question: Will the new hospital/loan be a taxpayer burden?

The new hospital will not be a burden to taxpayers. In addition to pursuing donations and grants, a USDA loan is being applied for which will cover all or most of the costs associated with the new hospital. **McKenzie Health System is not supported by taxpayer dollars and never has been.**

Question: Will all the clinics and doctors be located by the new hospital?

The second phase of the project will include an additional space to be connected to the new hospital. The plan is to move our Sandusky family healthcare clinics and specialty clinics to the new location along with other providers/services which may be added.

Question: Will we get our own MRI unit?

Michigan is a Certificate of Need (CON) state, which requires specific conditions to be met to qualify to have an MRI. McKenzie has applied for a mobile MRI. This would be the first step and, based on usage, a decision would be made to apply for a permanent MRI unit.