

## **Colleton Medical Center cares for its community**

By: Andy Ann

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Colleton Medical Center (CMC) has been a bustling hub of healthcare services, catering to over 67,000 individuals across seven counties in the Lowcountry in the last year. Whether it was inpatient, outpatient, or emergency room visits, CMC has been at the forefront of providing quality medical care to the community and surrounding areas. Last year alone, CMC had a staggering 31,000 emergency room visits.

Colleton Medical Center's success is largely due to the hard work of its 541 employees who are dedicated to serving its patients with the utmost care and compassion. These employees, who are the backbone of the organization, are compensated with competitive wages and benefits, with a combined total amounting to \$39.1 million having the potential to be reinvested back into Colleton County. Over 60% of CMC's employees live in Colleton County, and over 80% reside within 40 miles of the hospital. This means that a significant portion of this earned income stays within the Lowcountry, benefitting other businesses and the community as a whole.

As a for-profit organization and part of the HCA healthcare network out of Nashville, CMC also understands the importance of fulfilling its obligations to society. CMC takes pride in being a responsible corporate citizen and making a positive impact on the lives of those in Walterboro and surrounding areas. It recognizes the importance of giving back and has donated an astonishing \$7.3 million in charity and compensated care, providing actual dollars (not just charges) to support the care of individuals in need. CMC believes that every action it takes, no matter how small, can make a difference.

In terms of medical upgrades, over the past year CMC has invested \$9.5 million in capital to improve its medical facilities. The MRI magnet, which was over 20 years old, was in dire need of replacement. The replacement was made alongside upgrading the ecosystem to ensure that patients receive the best care possible. Additionally, CMC upgraded its stress testing capabilities so that it can provide a more comprehensive diagnosis.

It was also decided to give the facilities a facelift, with the goal of creating a more inviting and pleasant environment for patients. CMC believes that the ambiance of the space can significantly impact a patient's well-being, and they want them to feel comfortable and at ease while receiving treatment.

Lastly, for the past four years, they have been providing expert services to Colleton County. CMC is proud to have brought the DaVinci XI technology back to the region, which has enabled their general and gynecological surgeons to perform complex procedures. With this state-of-the-art technology, they can deliver a higher quality of care to their patients.

Colleton Medical Center and its staff are always striving to improve services and facilities to give patients the best possible experience. They are committed to providing top-notch medical care to the community, and constantly exploring new ways to achieve that goal.

This article was written based on the data presented by Jimmy Hiott, Chief Executive Officer of Colleton Medical Center, during the Colleton County Council's July 25, 2023 meeting.

For more information call 843-782-2000 or visit <https://colletonmedical.com/about/contact.dot>. Colleton Medical Center is located at 501 Robertson Blvd in Walterboro, South Carolina.

For more information about the Colleton County Council meetings or to review agendas and minutes, visit [www.colletoncounty.org/county-council/agendas-minutes](http://www.colletoncounty.org/county-council/agendas-minutes) or call 843-549-5221.