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HOSPITAL EXPANSION GOAL TO BETTER SERVE RESIDENTS

Uniontown, PA – In its ongoing efforts to better serve residents in Fayette County and beyond, Uniontown Hospital hopes to further upgrade and expand its facilities throughout 2018.

Hospital CEO Steve Handy said campus improvements began two years ago with overhauling patient parking, construction of a new main entrance and acquisition of properties along Berkeley Street.

The proposed new projects, aimed at enhancing overall campus safety and creating ease of access for patients, include construction of a new entrance, 400-space employee parking garage and covered causeway, and continued renovations to the Intensive Care Unit.

Handy said the projects will “strengthen campus connectivity through a growingly inclusive and inviting atmosphere,” but are contingent upon city ordinances and receipt of necessary funding, such as rural development grants through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“We are taking all the steps necessary to continue to connect our campus to the people of Fayette County and invest in our community, provided the funding is approved,” Handy said.

Uniontown Hospital Community Relations Director Josh Krysak said that in 2017, the hospital deployed hundreds of new wheelchairs throughout the facility and introduced the Will Ride Campus Shuttle program, which helps transport patients and visitors from parking lots to the main entrance during business hours Monday through Friday.

Other projects included renovations to patient units, creating all private patient rooms; a laboratory facility overhaul; and creation of a new Education Center, including two state-of-the-art simulation rooms.

“A multiphase renovation of the surgical services department is also complete, and with the introduction of new interventional radiology services, procedures that may have once required area residents to undergo traditional surgery or to leave the area are now being done through minimally invasive procedures,” Krysak said.



Last month, the hospital's multiple award-winning cardiology department added a new Cardiac Rehabilitation Program to help complete the continuum of care for cardiac patients, Krysak added.

Fayette County Commissioner Vincent Vicites said the county is fortunate to have two community hospitals and he supports their growth.

"With Uniontown Hospital, I think it helps create additional, good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for our county, as well as continued, quality health care for the future," Vicites said. "I support their efforts."

"Anytime a medical facility expands their services it is a benefit to the community, and I wish them well," said Fayette County Commissioner Angela Zimmerlink.

Fayette County Commissioner Dave Lohr said he supports the hospital's expansion, as it may help Fayette County "start working up the ladder" toward better overall health.

"Anytime something is going to help people's lives - on the health side in particular - whatever their plans are, I wish them well," Lohr said. "Our health needs to be there so that our workforce is strong, which is then appealing for companies to come into Fayette County and allow their employees to lead better lifestyles."

If funding is secured, Krysak said, "the campus renovation would transform the patient and visitor experience," by providing ease of access to the hospital registration area, a large and convenient patient drop-off area, additional parking and more green space.

"We want to provide the best possible care to our community and in the safest most pleasing environment we can," Krysak said. "Uniontown Hospital is the cornerstone of this community and we want our campus to be reflective of our commitment to Fayette County and our investment in our patients and their families."

For more information, call 724-430-8634 or visit www.uniontownhospital.com.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.fayettecountypa.info.

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