

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GLH Contact: Christine Hemphill**  
**662-451-7548**  
**chemphill@glh.org**

**Greenwood Leflore Hospital Re-opens After Sewage Line Event**

**GREENWOOD, AUGUST 18, 2022** — The hospital has received approval by the State Department of Health of the scope of work for remediation of the underground crawl spaces related to the sewage line event, and clean-up efforts have been completed. The building has met air quality safety standards throughout the event and has been determined safe to return to normal operations.

Throughout the sewage line event, the hospital continued to operate the Labor & Delivery Unit, continued to accept walk in patients to the Emergency Department, and also continued to operate clinics located outside of the main hospital building. Retail Pharmacy and Café Leflore also remained open. All of these services will continue to operate.

Effective today, the hospital resumed outpatient surgeries, as well as outpatient testing in Radiology and the Laboratory. Clinics located inside the hospital will also re-open per their normal hours of operation.

The hospital continues to be on diversion and is temporarily delaying the re-opening of inpatient services. Further analysis is required to determine with labor shortages and higher labor costs how we can continue to operate while remaining viable until a lease is finalized.

Interim Chief Executive Officer, Gary Marchand, credited the hospital's Incident Command Staff for their excellent leadership skills throughout the sewage line event. "I really wish the community could have seen what they're able to do", said Marchand regarding their planning and implementation efforts.

On behalf of the Hospital Board of Commissioners, Chairman Harris Powers praised hospital staff for their efforts and energy and thanked them for a job well done.

The hospital's Incident Command Staff members are grateful to hospital employees for all they have done and for their patience as we worked through this sewage line event. They are also appreciative for the support and all offers for assistance from our community, as well as surrounding communities. They would especially like to express appreciation to all parties

involved in the discovery and remediation efforts during the sewage line event. Key Britt, Incident Commander, stated, “This was definitely a team effort. We have so many people to thank for their support and partnership.” This extensive list includes, but is not limited to, City of Greenwood; County of Leflore; Mississippi State Department of Health; Atmos Energy; ServPro; emergency medical service providers, including MedStat, Pafford, and Priority One; and surrounding hospitals that worked with us to accept patient transfers, including:

- UMMC Grenada
- UMMC Jackson
- South Sunflower County Hospital in Indianola
- Baptist-Golden Triangle in Columbus
- Baptist Memorial Hospital-North Mississippi in Oxford
- Allegiance Specialty Hospital of Greenville
- Jefferson Regional Medical Center in Pine Bluff, AR

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### ***About Greenwood Leflore Hospital***

Greenwood Leflore Hospital is a healthcare organization that is publicly-owned by the City of Greenwood and Leflore County. One of the largest employers in Greenwood and Leflore County, the hospital employs 770 people. The hospital is a 208-bed facility that is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and has received a B-rating for hospital safety from the Leapfrog Group.

GLH operates a Level 4 Trauma Center; an inpatient rehab facility that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities; clinic laboratories that are accredited by the Commission on Office Laboratory Accreditation; Mammography, CT and MRI services that are accredited by the American College of Radiology; and a Level 2 Stroke Center that has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award, as well as the Association’s Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award.

Other designations GLH has achieved include a COVID-19 Center of Excellence by the Mississippi State Department of Health; and a Baby-Friendly facility by Baby-Friendly USA.

A regional hub of healthcare services for North Central Mississippi, GLH upgrades facilities and technology and recruits highly skilled medical professionals to provide advanced care with compassion. GLH offers a broad range of medical and surgical care capabilities across its network of clinics.