

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sewage Line Issue at Greenwood Leflore Hospital

GREENWOOD, AUGUST 16, 2022 — The hospital is working on a scope of work for remediation/clean-up efforts underneath the hospital structure to allow for the reopening of services.

The hospital continues to be on diversion, and we have cancelled all surgeries and outpatient testing, and have closed all clinics located inside the hospital. Clinics and other hospital facilities located outside the hospital building were not affected.

All discharges and transfers of inpatients were completed yesterday by 8:30 p.m. Patients were transferred to the following locations:

- UMMC Grenada
- UMMC Jackson
- South Sunflower
- Golden Triangle
- Pine Bluff, AR
- Oxford
- Allegiance in Greenville
- Cleveland

The Emergency Room remains open for patients. The retail pharmacy remains open throughout this process, but had to close today due to lack of coverage. Café Leflore remains open for retail food with a limited menu.

Yesterday around 7:00 a.m. it was discovered that manholes were clogged forcing sewage into the crawl space below the hospital building. Around 10:30 a.m., the City got the sewage lines unstopped. The main plumbing sewage line blockage was identified in the main sewage line on the South side of the building between the main hospital building and Strong Avenue.

Atmos Energy was here yesterday to test the air quality throughout the building, and we met air quality safety standards. Today we will have the air quality retested throughout the building.

Today we have three companies coming on site to give us quotes for remediation. We have a plumber coming in today with a camera to see if any pipes are compromised in any way. SERVPRO is currently here to remediate the elevator shafts. Plant Operations staff is also going under the building today to evaluate the situation.

Since yesterday we have had an Emergency Planner of the Mississippi Emergency Support Function-8 Healthcare Coalition Mississippi & Healthcare Coalition (MEHC) meeting with us in the Incident Command Center at the hospital.

Throughout this process we have also been in contact with the State Licensure Board, the Director of Fire Safety and Construction for the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), and Fred Randle, Director of the Greenwood-Leflore Emergency Management Agency.

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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.