

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

**Greenwood Leflore Hospital Announces Discussions
for Joint Operation of Facilities and Services**

GREENWOOD, JUNE 23, 2022 — The Board of Commissioners of Greenwood Leflore Hospital today announces that discussions are underway with the University of Mississippi Medical Center concerning a potential agreement on joint operation of GLH facilities and services. The intent of any agreement is to preserve access to medical and surgical services for residents of the North Central region of Mississippi. While discussions have started, they are nonbinding given that there are still many difficult details to consider and any agreement would require approval of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and GLH's owners.

GLH, like other hospitals nationally and in Mississippi, is challenged by revenue and cost pressures relating to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. GLH began the process of seeking affiliation partners as the hospital emerged from the Delta and Omicron waves of the pandemic. Affiliation, particularly with a larger system like UMMC, the state's only academic medical center and largest hospital, can result in cost efficiencies that are necessary to attain sustainable operations over the long term.

In addition to financial considerations, affiliations can also enhance the quantity and quality of services provided to the residents of the service area. Potential areas for enhanced service delivery include chronic care management, remote patient monitoring, telehealth-based care and advanced/specialty care. For inpatient acute care services, additional resources can enhance the quality and availability of care.

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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.

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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.