



Beaver Dam COMMUNITY HOSPITALS, INC. *Healthcare* FOR ALL OF US

While healthcare in Beaver Dam and the surrounding region has changed significantly over the past 100 years, what's remained the same is the community's support for strong, local healthcare, and local healthcare's commitment to providing the best care close to home for all of us.



Today, Beaver Dam Community Hospitals, Inc. (BDCH) represents the culmination of visionary leadership, past and present, and a continued dedication to providing those who entrust us with their care with the safest, highest-quality services across the continuum. More than just a hospital, BDCH provides the greater Dodge County region with care from birth to end of life, with myriad specialty services that allow residents to receive the type of care they might typically expect from tertiary hospitals.

In 1972, the community came together and witnessed the merger of Lutheran Hospital (est. 1922) and St. Joseph's Hospital (est. 1938), the first time for Catholic and Lutheran hospitals in Wisconsin. Healthcare

leaders of the day knew then that a strong, local hospital increases the region's ability to attract highly qualified physicians and other professional providers while optimizing quality of care for the region's patients. With this in mind, BDCH was born.

In 2006, a brand-new Beaver Dam Community Hospital opened for service. The 60-bed acute-care hospital combined advances in medicine and technology with a state-of-the-art facility that created a healing environment of care for patients and their families. Kim Miller, FACHE, became BDCH President and CEO shortly thereafter, and slowly and surely began working toward improving the quality of services BDCH



already provided while addressing areas of need.

For many years, BDCH has proudly offered a wide array of services for residents of all ages, including primary and specialty care, obstetric and inpatient acute care, outpatient surgery and oncology services, emergency services, rehabilitation, independent and assisted living, home care, hospice, long-term care, orthopedics and sports medicine, women's health, community education, and child care.

In 2010, in order to improve access to primary care, BDCH Medical Clinics were opened in Beaver Dam, Columbus, Juneau, and Waupun, with a Horicon location to follow.

Since then, BDCH has added an expanded dedicated sleep center, Advanced Wound Care, Advanced Pain Management, subspecialty radiology, a state-of-the-art interventional radiology suite and much more. BDCH's technology lineup also expanded by acquiring a 64-slice CT scanner, a top-of-the-line GE Optima MRI, stereotactic breast biopsy, 3D mammography

(tomosynthesis), and the da Vinci Xi Robotic Surgical System. Addressing population health in 2017, BDCH sponsored the launch of the Blue Zones Project in Dodge County.

Thanks to the vision of the BDCH Executive Team and Board of Directors, and the hard work by physicians, providers, staff, and volunteers, BDCH has not only offered increased services, but increased safety and quality too.

BDCH has earned an A grade for quality and patient safety from the Leapfrog Group each of the past five years (2013 to 2017) and was



also named a Leapfrog Group Top Rural Hospital for three straight years (2014 to 2016), the only Wisconsin hospital ever to earn that distinction. Press Ganey also awarded BDCH with the Guardian of Excellence Award for Clinical Quality in 2017, while BDCH Hillside Home Care was named a Top Agency of the HomeCare Elite for the 10th time in the last 12 years. BDCH has also fostered a progressive, friendly work environment, earning a top workplace honor in 2013 while being recognized by the American Heart Association for workplace health in 2017.

National recognition is gratifying, but the reason for everything BDCH does, today and tomorrow, is to ensure quality and compassionate care for the patients, residents, and children who have entrusted us with their health and wellness. Healthcare may change throughout the years, but our commitment to our region will not.

Photographs provided by Beaver Dam Community Hospital.

This article was collectively written by Beaver Dam Community Hospital staff.