ABOUT US

Greater Regional Health is a healthcare system located in Creston, Iowa. It is made up of multiple clinics and services, as well as over 550 employees, to best serve our patients of Southwest Iowa and beyond.

GRH is an affiliate partner with UnityPoint Health in Des Moines through both a formal management agreement and a Critical Access Hospital network agreement. This relationship enables GRH to retain its governance structure while taking advantage of greater system-wide resources, clinical platforms, best practices and many other advantages which benefit the people in our community. GRH remains locally governed by a Board of Trustees and key administration positions to oversee the day-to-day operations of the hospital and its employees.

GRH is a 25 bed critical access hospital that offers a range of services including Intensive Care (ICU), Acute Care and Swing Bed/Skilled Care. There is also a state-of-the-art Birthing Center, Cancer & Infusion Center, Rehabilitation Center and Sleep Center.

Four rural health clinics are conveniently located in Lenox, Mt. Ayr, Corning, and Greenfield. These clinics offer primary care close to home and work closely with the specialists located on our main Creston campus when needed. The Greenfield Medical Clinic is the newest location, opening it's doors in spring 2023!

The East Medical Suites also opened this year, providing additional clinic space for specialty service lines. Union County Public Health and our Visiting Providers Clinic are located at Highway Medical on Highway 34 in Creston, while patients can obtain medical records and other information from the Health Information Center. Crest Ridge Estates, designed for the active senior citizen, is a secure, private apartment complex located next door to the GRH main campus.

Learn more about the care and services provided at Greater Regional Health at www.greaterregional.org!

LOCATIONS

Greater Regional Health ............................................. (641) 782-7091
1700 W. Townline Street, Creston, Iowa 50801

East Medical Suites .................................................. (641) 782-3528
1111 Country Club Drive, Creston, Iowa 50801

Highway Medical ...................................................... (641) 782-3545
803 Wyoming Avenue, Creston, Iowa 50801

Health Information Center ......................................... (641) 782-3520
1715 West Prairie Street, Creston, Iowa 50801

Corning Medical Clinic .............................................. (641) 322-4431
700 Davis Avenue, Corning, Iowa 50841

Lenox Medical Clinic ................................................. (641) 333-4545
100 S. Main Street, Lenox, Iowa 50851

Mt. Ayr Community Health Clinic .............................. (641) 464-8971
120 S. Taylor Street, Mt. Ayr, Iowa 50854

Greenfield Medical Clinic ........................................ (641) 743-6529
288 Public Square, Greenfield, Iowa 50849

Crest Ridge Estates .................................................... (641) 782-3553
1715 West Prairie Street, Creston, Iowa 50801

WHO WE ARE

2023 was an exciting and productive year for Greater Regional Health! We continued to work toward our mission of providing the highest quality healthcare and stayed true to our vision of being the healthcare provider and employer of choice by reinvesting in our people, facilities and communities.

Greater Regional Health achieved recognition by Iowa’s Top Workplaces for the 6th year in a row. We were also honored to receive the Culture Excellence Award in Compensation & Benefits based on employee feedback on the competitive packages we offer. Greater Regional Health would not be able to obtain such an award if it were not for our hard-working employees who come to work every day to make a difference in our patients’ lives. Employees have the opportunity to experience our outstanding culture and team philosophy through a wide range of both clinical and non-clinical based job opportunities.

As Greater Regional Health continues to grow, our focus is on creating projects that support our 50-plus service lines. Lab and Clinic expansion began late summer of 2023 and will provide patients with improved access, convenience and expanded space for our lab services once completed. The project will also provide much-needed space for our primary care providers as we continue to recruit high-quality, compassionate physicians/providers and nurses.

The expansion of our fourth rural health clinic has neared its completion in Greenfield. We are excited to expand our rural health reach and join our existing clinics of Lenox Medical Clinic, Mt. Ayr Community Health Clinic, and Corning Medical Clinic. These clinics serve our belief that people who live in rural Iowa will have quality, access, and choice when it comes to deciding where to receive their care.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in Greater Regional Health. We look forward to serving our communities into 2024.

Monte Neitzel, Chief Executive Officer

CRITICAL ACCESS Hospital

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THE TEAM

Monte Neitzel
Chief Executive Officer

Greater Regional Health is always looking for talented individuals to join our amazing team. For a complete list of current job openings, visit www.greaterregional.org/careers.
Diabetes can affect your life in many ways, but knowledge and careful management of the disease can lower your risk of serious complications. Whether you are experiencing new symptoms or have lived with diabetes your entire life, our multidisciplinary staff is dedicated to providing the high-quality, comprehensive diabetes care you deserve.

Diabetes Education
The diabetes education program at Greater Regional Health is certified by the American Diabetes Association* and the state of Iowa. Greater Regional Health offers a complete program of services used to treat and manage diabetes so patients may enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle. There are several types of diabetes which require different treatment plans.

Eligible patients include:
- Prediabetes
- Type 1 Diabetes
- Type 2 Diabetes
- Gestational Diabetes

Patients may be newly diagnosed, have changes in diabetes management, or need additional education. Services may be requested through your primary care provider or by self-referral.

Understanding diabetes is the first step toward managing it. While diabetes cannot be cured, it can be effectively managed by learning important skills: Our educators will teach you what you need to know about diabetes and how it affects your body.

Diabetes Education may include:
- Evaluation and management sessions
- Nutrition counseling with a focus on carbohydrate counting
- Blood glucose monitoring
- Medication review
- Insulin or other injectable administration
- Activity/exercise

Your Diabetic Care Team
Greater Regional Health offers multidisciplinary specialists who work together to create a high-quality, personalized diabetes care team. It starts with our Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (CDCES) and Registered Dieticians. These health professionals possess comprehensive knowledge of and experience in diabetes prevention, prediabetes, and diabetes care and management. Our educators build strong relationships with patients so you can comfortably ask for help and get answers to all of your questions. Your diabetes team will regularly communicate with your primary care provider, so your entire care team stays up-to-date on your treatment plan, even as your needs change.

Referral and quick access to other specialists are also available when needed.

If you or a loved one is diabetic or suspect diabetes, Greater Regional Health highly recommends having an established primary care provider. Patients may choose from a wide variety of primary care providers in Creston, as well as providers in the surrounding communities of Lenox, Mt. Ayr, Corning, and Greenfield. A primary care provider provides routine medical care like lab tests, physical exams, and prescriptions.

Your provider may recommend a screening test if you have certain risk factors for diabetes or are experiencing symptoms. Some people may experience a wide range of symptoms like increased thirst, frequent infections, or slow-healing sores while others may not have symptoms at all.

Primary Care options include:
- Family Medicine (641) 782-2131: Comprehensive health care for people of all ages.
- Adult Medicine (641) 782-3952: Internal medicine for adults 18 years or older, specializing in prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of chronic diseases.

CERTIFIED DIABETES CARE AND EDUCATION SPECIALISTS

Kim Frain, BSN, RN, CDCES
Ginny Lents, RD/LD, CDCES

Live your best life with diabetes!

*Lynn Hurley, RN, CDCES

SPECIALTY SERVICES FOR DIABETIC CONDITIONS

When additional healthcare needs arise, Greater Regional Health offers a variety of on-site specialty services that treat many diabetic conditions.

Weight Management: Keeping a healthy body weight through exercise and healthy eating can help manage diabetes.

Wound Care/Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy: Diabetes can make it harder for your body to heal. It may also increase your risk of sores and complications like infections. Greater Regional Wound Care focuses on prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of wounds, including diabetic foot ulcers.

Podiatry/Nerve Pain Therapy: Podiatry treats foot related conditions as well as complications and nerve damage from diabetes.

Cardiac Rehabilitation: Diabetes can increase the risk of many heart problems, including heart disease and stroke.

Psychiatry: Psychiatry may treat depression and anxiety symptoms related to diabetes.

Union County Public Health: Contact Public Health for vaccines, heart and health risk screenings, and additional resources.

American Diabetes Association Connected for Life

*The American Diabetes Association Recognizes this education service as meeting the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support.
At the Greater Regional Cancer & Infusion Center, patients get to see and be treated by medical oncologists and radiation oncologists right here locally. Patients can avoid extensive travel times and potentially stressful traffic of the city while receiving that extra personal touch of care in our facility. Our team of providers and nurses combine for years of experience to provide the best patient care possible. The patient care team includes medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pharmacists, surgeons, and other specialties who all work together to develop the best plan for the patient.

Medical Oncology
It is Greater Regional Health’s highest priority to put patient care first in any decisions that are made regarding local healthcare. In October 2023, the choice was made to employ our own Medical Oncologists. This decision allows Greater Regional Health to offer increased access to cancer care close to home.

Greater Regional Health welcomed full-time Medical Oncology and Hematology providers, Dr. Mathew Wehbe and Brooke Wehbe, ARNP, to the cancer care team. The pair work in the Cancer & Infusion Center in Creston four days a week.

Dr. Wehbe is board certified in medical oncology and hematology and brings 14 years of experience within cancer care. “I am a medical oncologist and hematologist, and I love taking care of people and ensuring the best outcome possible,” said Brooke. "I am excited to provide comprehensive care to patients close to their homes and support systems. I strongly believe patients do better in the comfort of their local community.”

MATHEW WEHBE, MD
Education:
American University of Beirut (MD)
University of Iowa (Residency & Fellowship)
Experience:
Mission Cancer + Blood, Assistant Professor/Associate Professor, Medical Director, Assistant Program Director, Cancer Therapy & Research Center (CTRC), University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio; Assistant Professor, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Division of Hematology/Oncology.
BROOKE WEHBE, ARNP, AOCNP
Education:
Masters of Science and Nursing at Clarkson College BSN at Mercy College of Health Sciences

Ashley Chrisco, RN, also joined the oncology team. A former colleague of Dr. Wehbe and Brooke, Ashley has more than 19 years of experience in acute care and outpatient care nursing and is excited to build trusting and meaningful relationships with patients and their families.

The Cancer Center staff worked hard to transfer patients seamlessly during the transition. “New patients typically visit their primary care physician or specialist first to place a referral if appropriate,” said Dr. Wehbe. “If you are concerned about anything, definitely visit with your provider and they will contact us.”

“We will see patients together,” said Brooke. “Typically, Matt sees them on their initial visit and then we kind of go back and forth. We think in different ways so it’s nice to have two sets of eyes on the patient. Every patient will see both of us throughout their course of treatment or surveillance.”

Radiation Therapy
Our radiation therapy services remain the same with our partnership with MercyOne Richard Deming Cancer Center. We thank Dr. John Martens and team for their continued support of our patients and cancer center.

Radiation Therapy treats malignant and benign tumors in their exact location within the patient’s body, whereas chemotherapy treats the whole body. Some patients receive radiation therapy after surgical removal of the tumor to make sure all microscopic cells are gone. Some patients require both types of treatment where others only need one. This is determined by a medical oncologist and/or a radiation oncologist.

There was one change to our radiation therapy services this year, however, and that was the installation of a new linear accelerator. This is the device used for external beam radiation treatments for patients with cancer.

Greater Regional Health strives to offer the latest technology available so patients have the same treatment options as they would in Des Moines and larger cities. This machine, the Varian True Beam, replaces a former model that was installed in 2008. This upgrade allows for quicker patient treatment times as well.

In our center we work together to coordinate care and appointments. We also offer many other services during a patient’s journey like lab and radiology services, nutrition advice with dieticians, and physical, speech, and occupational therapy. Care coordinators are available to assist patients with travel, financial, and other resources if needed.

Our firm belief in our mission statement is that our patients have a choice in their healthcare. Greater Regional Health strives to meet that expectation in all our healthcare services. This mission was instrumental in recruiting dedicated oncology and hematology providers to come to Greater Regional Health as well as maintaining state of the art technology and equipment. We look forward to continuing and building new and trusted relationships while providing the best possible cancer care for our patients, because at Greater Regional Cancer and Infusion Center, we treat our patients like family.
The DAISY Award
The DAISY Award is a program that rewards excellence in nursing. It was created by the DAISY Foundation to recognize the clinical skills and extraordinary compassion and care exhibited by nurses every day. This year’s award winner was Heather Burwell.

Hospital Hero
Heroes are among us. We work with them every day. Each quarter employees nominate their peers for the Hospital Hero Award for going above and beyond in the work place. 2023 honorees were Rachelle White, Katelyn Brashear, Dennis Cheers, and Brooke Berg.

Chamber of Commerce Hi-Five
Jessica Crandall, DNP, and Patient Scheduling Associate, Rocky Huffman, were recognized as a Hi-Five recipients by the Creston Chamber of Commerce for excellent customer service.

Rachelle White
Katelyn Brashear
Dennis Cheers
Brooke Berg

Health Careers Apprenticeship Program
Greater Regional Health was awarded a grant through the Iowa Health Careers Registered Apprenticeship Program. The awarded funds will be used on apprenticeships for those wishing to enter the healthcare field in nursing or emergency medical services. GRH will partner with local high schools and SWCC to give students relevant and valuable on the job experience with the goal of fulfilling current healthcare staffing needs in the future.

Iowa Top Workplaces 2023 Award
Greater Regional Health was awarded a Top Workplaces 2023 honor by Iowa Top Workplaces. The list is based on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by employee engagement technology partner Energage LLC. The anonymous survey uniquely measures 15 culture drivers that are critical to the success of any organization.

Culture Excellence in Compensation & Benefits
Greater Regional Health received a Top Workplaces Culture Excellence award in Compensation & Benefits. This award celebrates organizations that provide packages employees believe are fair for the work being done and compared to others in the industry.

5 Star Patient Survey Rating
Greater Regional Health received a 5 Star Patient Survey Rating from Care Compare. The star ratings summarize patient experience, which is one aspect of hospital quality. Based on surveys, Greater Regional Health consistently scored higher than Iowa and national averages.

Becker’s Hospital Review
The national publication, Becker’s Hospital Review, named Greater Regional Health a top hospital in the country, in Physician Communication and Nurse Communication. GRH has made strategic goals as an organization to improve processes throughout the facility. One such goal was to improve patient experience scores related to communication, which was achieved.

Performance Leadership Award
Greater Regional Health was awarded the Chartis Performance Leadership Award for 2023 for Quality. This award celebrates top quartile performance (75th percentile or above) in Quality on the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX.

Auxiliary Scholarships
Greater Regional Auxiliary presented five $1,000 scholarships to individuals pursuing a health career. Congratulations to Mica Andreassen, Addison Snodgrass, Drew Ehlen, Mallory Wesselher, and Madison Long.

Health Careers Apprenticeship Program
Greater Regional Health was recognized as a Top 100 Critical Access Hospital for the 5th consecutive year! There are 1,360 Critical Access Hospitals across the country and GRH is one of the top 100.

Primary Stroke Center
Greater Regional Health was re-certified as a Primary Stroke Center this year by Det Norske Veritas Healthcare (DNV). This certification shows the community we have the resources and commitment to provide excellence in stroke patient care.

Infection Prevention
Greater Regional Health received its recertification in Infection Prevention (CIP) recognizing exceptional processes and approach to mitigating infection risk that exceeds current standards.

Diabetes Education
The diabetes education program at Greater Regional Health is certified by the American Diabetes Association® and the state of Iowa.

Safety Spotlight Award
Greater Regional Health received a 2023 Safety Spotlight Award, presented by the Iowa Hospital Association and ServiShare, for going above and beyond in improving safety throughout the organization. Chief Human Resources Officer, Amy Rieck, and Employee Health Coordinator, Alisa Tusey, and their teams worked together to decrease overall workplace injury trends.

Best In State SHIIP-SMP Volunteer
SHIIP-SMP volunteer, Valerie Allen, was recognized with the “Best in State” Award for providing outstanding one-on-one Medicare counseling. SHIIP-SMP volunteers help clients find financial assistance to cover Medicare costs and help clients avoid Medicare fraud, scams and abuse.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteers helped prepare pancakes for 3rd-5th grade students taking the ISASP tests at Creston Elementary School.

Volunteers celebrated the seasons at parades and events.

Staff assembled and delivered special May Day baskets for the residents at Crest Ridge Estates.

Employees were encouraged to wear red on National Wear Red Day to raise awareness for heart disease.

Dr. Amy Hynak McFarland shared her singing talent with Mrs. Cramer’s class at the Creston Community Early Childhood Center.

Flynn, the therapy dog, helps brighten the day of our patients and staff.

The Corning Medical Clinic enjoyed lunch for Maddy McBride’s open house.

Ground was broke on the lab and clinic expansion project. The new space will accommodate larger advanced diagnostic equipment, a growing dedicated staff, and provide easier accessibility for our patients!

Volunteers packaged meals for “Meals from the Heartland.”

Team members signed structural beams that were put in place as part of the lab and clinic expansion.

Employees walked in multiple lighted Christmas parades.

Employees received a bbq lunch and other treats during Hospital Week.

Dr. Joshua Capson made birdhouses with Matura Head Start students to hang around campus for patients and visitors to enjoy.

The Lenox Medical Clinic staff was featured in a Chamber Member Spotlight.

A ribbon cutting was held for the opening of the East Medical Suites.

Nurses Week is a week long celebration that recognized the commitment our nurses make to compassionate care for our patients.

Employees were encouraged to wear red on National Wear Red Day to raise awareness for heart disease.

A blanket donation was made to the Cancer & Infusion Center for patients to use while receiving infusions.

The PANS Compassion Walk helped raise awareness for PANS.

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Greater Regional Health prioritizes healthy initiatives not only in our hospital and clinics but also within the communities we serve. A healthy community is one in which all residents have access to a quality education, safe and healthy homes, adequate employment, transportation, physical activity, and nutrition, in addition to quality health care. Greater Regional Health chooses to reinvest in projects to promote an overall healthy community.

As a county hospital, Greater Regional Health is governed by Iowa Code Chapter 347, its board bylaws, and hospital policies and procedures. Initiatives are supported if it is financially suitable to do so each fiscal year. The hospital has not raised taxes in 20 years and will not raise taxes to support community reinvestment projects.

Greater Regional Health uses feedback from community and staff surveys to determine which reinvestment initiatives would most benefit the community. Union County Public Health conducted a Community Health Needs Assessment in 2022. The results of this survey have helped identify the key health needs in the community. It also helps develop a health improvement plan by justifying how and where resources should be allocated to best meet community needs. The growth achieved by Greater Regional Health over the last 5 years has made it possible to support a variety of community reinvestment initiatives.

The Greater Regional Healthcare Foundation was established in 1993 with the mission of providing support and enhancements to the health and well-being of the communities we serve through the purchase of new equipment, improving patient experience, educational opportunities, and other projects. Generous donations through memorials, annual giving, and fundraising efforts have made a significant contribution to the experience of local health care and wellness opportunities. 2023 was filled with exciting events and contributions. The Foundation was proud to sponsor the Creston Farmers Market for the fifth year. The market provides access to fresh local produce and other products.

The Foundation hosted its 32nd annual golf event in June. 48 teams competed, raising over $40,000. This event is the largest fundraising event of the year with funds designated toward the Auxiliary’s annual healthcare scholarships and projects selected by the Foundation Board.

This year was the second year for the Crush Cancer in Every Color event. This committee is chaired by community members with an interest in keeping funds that support cancer patients local. The Patches and Pieces Quilt Guild continue to regularly support cancer patients through donations toward the transportation program. We are grateful for the tremendous support received from these groups and the community.

The PANS Compassion Fund Endowment, established in 2021 by the Stephen and Connie Beasley Family, continues to support patients and families navigating PANS. The Foundation works closely with the pediatrics department to assist families with travel and lodging. This year GRH hosted a virtual fundraiser walk for World PANS/PANDAS Day.

The Foundation appreciates the support of our community and generous gifts from our donors and looks forward to continuing to enhance the excellent care provided by Greater Regional Health.
Services

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL 911!

MEDICAL CENTER........................(641) 782-7091
Birthing Center
Business Health
Diabetic Education
Emergency & Ambulance Lab
Nutrition
Cancer & Infusion Center
· Hematology
· Infusions
· Oncology
· Radiation Therapy
Radiology
Rehabilitation Center
· Athletic Training
· Cardiopulmonary Rehab
· Occupational Therapy
· Pelvic Floor Therapy
· Physical Therapy
· Speech Therapy
Respiratory Therapy
Surgery Center
Urgent Care

ADULT MEDICINE CLINIC.............(641) 782-3952
Internal Medicine
Neurology

SPECIALTY CLINIC........................(641) 782-3887
Audiology
ENT
General Surgery
Gynecology
Orthopedics
Pain Management
Podiatry
· Nerve Pain Therapy
Pulmonology
Sleep Medicine
Urology
Wound Care
· Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy

EAST MEDICAL SUITES....................(641) 782-3528
Dermatology
Weight Management
Medical Spa

PRIMARY CLINIC..........................(641) 782-2131
Family Medicine
Family Medicine/OB
Injections
PANS
Pediatrics
Psychiatry
Same-Day Sick

HIGHWAY MEDICAL.......................(641) 782-3545
Union County Public Health
Visiting Providers
· Allergy, Asthma & Sinus
· Cardiology
· EMG Testing
· Nephrology
· Vascular

We are committed to providing the highest quality health care and service to our patients and communities.

Learn more about the services provided at Greater Regional Health at: www.greaterregional.org