

Press Release

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RMC and Stringfellow to More Deeply Integrate

The integration is designed to enhance patient care, increase ease of access and optimize operations.

Anniston, AL (March 23, 2024) – Today, RMC Health System announced that in an effort to continue delivering the highest quality care to the community, RMC will more deeply integrate its two facilities, Stringfellow and RMC Hospital, and change the way it utilizes its Stringfellow campus. The transition, which is expected to take place over the course of this year, will ensure that patients can access the right services in the right settings and that RMC can meet the future healthcare needs of the communities it serves.

“The transition is about putting patients first and ensuring everyone has the access to the care they need,” said Louis Bass, President and CEO of RMC. “We are confident that these efforts are going to optimize the operations of our facilities and provide a better experience for our patients, physicians and employees. Redistributing our resources in this way will also allow us to invest in updated technology, new healthcare services and new models of care – it’s exciting to think about the possibilities.”

As part of this transition, RMC Health System plans to:

- **Retain all current Stringfellow staff members** and facilitate their transition to roles within the RMC Health System. If an employee chooses to pursue a new career path, RMC will provide support and guidance to that staff member.
- **Develop hospital-wide improvements on both RMC and Stringfellow campuses**, including creating more opportunities for cross-caregiver collaboration and the reestablishment of a patient advocacy program.
- **Transition the Stringfellow emergency department to a dedicated urgent care center** to optimize healthcare delivery for medical conditions and injuries needing immediate attention.
- **Transition the existing surgical and gastroenterology services performed at the Stringfellow campus to an outpatient-only service** that effectively manages the growing volume of outpatient procedures currently performed in a hospital setting.
- **Enhance the patient experience at RMC’s existing emergency department** by updating current provider scheduling practices, optimizing patient triage and increasing data tracking to identify key areas for targeted improvement.
- **Transfer current inpatient services from Stringfellow to RMC’s main campus** for improved, dedicated and centralized care.

By more deeply integrating these two facilities, RMC will be able to better care for patients while keeping the Stringfellow name and property a pillar for healthcare. Stringfellow will continue providing care through its emergency and surgical departments until the transition is complete.



Patients should keep their appointments and will be contacted regarding any future scheduling changes.

RMC is committed to the continued employment of all Stringfellow employees. Each Stringfellow team member will have the opportunity to explore opportunities within the organization. This employee integration and collaboration will result in even stronger care teams and an enhanced ability to recruit and retain top talent across RMC going forward.

RMC will be sharing more about this transformative journey meant to make healthcare better for the entire community of northeast Alabama in the coming weeks.

About The Health Care Authority of the City of Anniston

The Health Care Authority of the City of Anniston (RMC) is the premier regional healthcare provider for a five-county service area in northeast Alabama. With a total of 338 inpatient beds located at its Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center campus, 125 at its Stringfellow Campus, and numerous outpatient facilities, urgent care and specialty clinics, RMC is the region's leading provider of choice. More than 1,900 employees, 300 volunteers and over 200 physicians, who represent a full range of medical specialties – including cardiac, women's, orthopedics, oncology and emergency services – provide state-of-the-art healthcare to patients with integrity, skill and compassion. Learn more at www.rmccares.org.

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