

 **Business Spotlight****Dallas County Hospital**

For over 50 years, Dallas County Hospital has been a trusted source of expert healthcare for thousands of patients throughout central Iowa. Founded in 1954, this 25-bed critical access hospital serves Dallas, Greene, Guthrie, and Boone counties. With a mission to "improve the health of the people we serve," Dallas County Hospital strives to bring specialized health care services such as radiology and mammography, chemotherapy, surgical, lab services and therapy services close to home.

Services:

Dallas County Hospital offers many diverse outpatient services in one central location. From an ER that is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, to a remodeled surgery department that provides a variety of surgeries including cataract, general and orthopedic surgery. In addition, the DCH Radiology Department provides comprehensive diagnostic testing such as x-rays, ultrasound, digital mammography, CT scans, and bone densitometry.



Dallas County Hospital also offers over twenty specialty clinics including Cardiology, Dermatology, Oncology, Mid-Wifery and Endocrinology, just to name a few. The same knowledgeable and caring physicians in Des Moines travel to Perry each month to offer their specialty services closer to home.

Community:

The physicians and staff at Dallas County Hospital understand that there are many dimensions to care, from education and prevention to taking care of illnesses. In addition to offering many free community programs and support groups including Diabetic and Better Breathers Support Groups, they also host and sponsor a number of free community Health Events. The 2009 Dallas County Hospital Safe and Healthy Halloween Event drew over 1,500 people, while their 2009 Health Fair provided health information from over 33 vendors. Dallas County Hospital's commitment to the communities goes well beyond providing quality healthcare.

Patient Satisfaction:

Dallas County Hospital's physicians, nurses and staff are dedicated to creating a culture of excellences that provides high quality compassionate healthcare to every patient, every time. The hospital's patient centered care is measure through patient satisfaction results collected and compiled by Press Ganey, a third party survey firm. Press Ganey is able to deliver the results as compared locally to twenty-one hospitals in their peer group and nationally compared to 2,700 hospitals in their database. Recently, a top 1% in patient satisfaction was celebrated for Dallas County Hospital's Ambulatory Surgery, Environmental Services (Housekeeping), Inpatient, Dietary Department and ER. This means their patients ranked them as good as or better than all hospitals in their peer group for each of these departments.



Dallas County Hospital's staff of highly trained professionals know their patients as friends and neighbors - not another "filled bed". Through state of the art facilities, a dedicated and knowledgeable team of doctors, nurses and staff and a dedication to patient centered care, Dallas County Hospital continues to set the standard for rural hospitals.



Project Activity

Project activity has been steady in the Greater Dallas County area and we are pleased to report the following statistics for the second quarter of 2009:

- 15 New Prospect/Project Inquiries
 - 4 manufacturing
 - 1 warehouse
 - 1 office
 - 3 call center
 - 6 others
- 1 Prospect Visit
- 17 Active Projects
- 51 Pending Projects
- 146 New or Existing Business Consultations

Existing Business Call Program

The Alliance staff continues to work on an existing business and industry call program as a means to open lines of communication with businesses located in the Greater Dallas County area. This program continues to identify existing business growth plans. Staff has completed 22 calls this second quarter, for a total of 51 calls completed in 2009 so far. Please let us know of any businesses in your community you would like us to call upon.

RISE Award

The City of Perry has been approved for a Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Local Development grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation. Up to \$120,188 has been awarded to assist with the road improvement of approximately 600 feet of 26th Street north of Iowa Avenue. This improvement will provide access to additional lots available for new development. The Alliance submitted the RISE application on behalf of the City of Perry.



2009 Legislative Summary

The Alliance tracked various legislative issues during the 2009 session of the Iowa General Assembly. Visit our website to review our [2009 Legislative Priorities](#). Bills of interest in relation to the Alliance's priorities include:

2009 Legislative Priorities Summary

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

Tax Increment Financing

Legislation that would have repealed the Local Option Sales Tax TIF (LOST TIF) did not pass through session.

Financial Programs/Incentives

SF 344, a bill that standardizes and simplifies the Iowa Values Fund has been signed by the governor and goes into effect July 1, 2009. New information on the changes within the fund will be posted on The Alliance website in the near future.

Legislation for tax exemptions of data center businesses was included in Salaries and Standings bill SF 478, which has been signed by the governor. It provides tax exemptions and sales tax refunds based on the project investment for data centers that are 5,000 square feet or larger.

Tax Credit Cap Bill, SF 483, has been signed by the governor. This legislation puts a \$185 Million annual cap on Iowa Department of Economic Development tax credits for the High Quality Jobs Program, TV & Video Incentives, Corporate Research Tax Credits and the Enterprise Zone Programs.

Signed by the governor, is legislation that increases the annual historic preservation tax credits from \$20M to \$50M.

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE COMPETITIVE POSITION

Property Tax Reform

Property tax reform received some attention but no action was taken. Bills introduced included topics on commercial property assessment, rollback ties and a recreational property class.

Controversial legislation which would eliminate individual federal deductibility did not make it through the session. It was proposed that in place of this elimination those in lower income brackets would receive a tax cut, while those in upper income brackets would pay more.

STRENGTHEN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Legislation proposing an increase in gas tax did not make it through the session .

The \$830 Million IJOBS Program will invest in Iowa infrastructure as well as create jobs and rebuild disaster communities, including: \$10M for Alternate Energy, \$25M for Broadband Grants, \$290M for Disaster Rebuilding/Prevention, \$35M for Housing, \$55M for Sewer Infrastructure, \$300M for State Vertical Infrastructure Projects, and \$115 for Transportation. An 11-member board will develop rules, review applications, and make grant decisions.

ENHANCE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Labor/Workforce

Several issues relating to labor have received considerable attention this session, including legislation regarding choice of doctor, open-scope bargaining, fair share and prevailing wage, though no bills made it through. It is likely these issues will arise in next year's session.



GDCDA Events

The Alliance hosted their 6th Annual Golf Outing on May 20, 2009 at River Valley Golf north of Adel. Eleven teams participated in the 4-person best shot tournament. Following play the teams enjoyed a reception with prizes awarded to top players. The Alliance would like to give a big thanks to those who sponsored and donated to our outing this year!

Mark your calendar for The Alliance's annual meeting on the evening of Thursday, October 1, 2009 at Stonehaven Party Barn in De Soto.

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