



**MEMORIAL
HEALTH SYSTEM**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Memorial Health to Expand Healthcare Access in Athens

Athens, OH (October 28, 2021) — Memorial Health System continues to expand available services in Athens, Ohio, and surrounding areas to allow residents to receive local care and see specialists close to home instead of traveling to Columbus or beyond. All our providers collaborate in the best interest of our patients across specialties.

Currently, Athens residents have access to our Athens Department of Primary Care for all their primary care needs, as well as our Athens Department of Specialty Care, which includes cardiology; general surgery; orthopedic surgery; ear, nose & throat; podiatry; and Lifestyle Medicine.

Coming in November, we are also adding Departments of Orthopedics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Memorial Health System has an excellent partnership with Ohio University and Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine and looks forward to deepening that relationship and offering services to the entire community.

As the health system grows access to the region, it plans to open a freestanding emergency department on Columbus Road in July 2022. The ED will be fully equipped with technology and resources including CT scanning, ultrasound, lab services and X-ray services. Patients will be able to receive treatment for a range of emergency conditions including chest pain, stroke, trauma injuries, severe pain, broken bones, cuts, burns and more. Should a condition require additional advanced treatment, surgery or inpatient care, patients would be stabilized and transported to the Marietta Memorial Hospital main campus.

Memorial Health System is experienced in providing top-rated care at freestanding ERs. In fact, our Belpre freestanding emergency room has been recognized for care rating in the top 10% in the nation for patient satisfaction.

"The Memorial Health System treats a sizable number of patients in the Athens and surrounding area," said Scott Cantley, President & CEO, Memorial Health System. "Our new freestanding emergency department will add to the quality, compassionate care of our other providers, close to home."

The 20,000 square foot facility will cost about \$20 million and will bring an additional 50 jobs to the 50 that have already been added to the community.

Memorial Health System is proud to bring valuable services to our patients; we offer free virtual urgent care visits for our primary care patients, a free 24-Hour Nurse Line, and more.

Learn more about our services at mhsystem.org or give us a call to schedule an appointment with any of our providers at (740) 568-5241.

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Memorial Health System is a not-for-profit integrated health system lead by a volunteer board of community members committed to providing comprehensive care services that meet the needs of our region. We are comprised of a network of locations and specialties provided by over 3,000 employees that include three hospitals (Marietta Memorial Hospital, Selby General Hospital and Sistersville General Hospital), outpatient service sites, and provider clinics. Memorial Health System strives to deliver quality care and service with an additional focus on medical education and community service. We invest in the most advanced technologies and treatments today, giving our patients the care that they need, so they can stay close to home.