



## Arkansas Methodist Medical Center

*It's all about you.*

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**July 16, 2007**

- - NEWS RELEASE - -

### **ARKANSAS METHODIST MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATE MEETING 2007**

Northeast Arkansas residents gathered Monday night to hear a message of progress as Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould moves into its 2008 financial year. During the 2007 Corporation Meeting at Paragould Country Club, Board of Directors and Medical Center Administration outlined the past operating year. “We are excited and proud to have added five new doctors to expand our services, and our patient satisfaction scores have continued to make an impressive climb. This is a result of the entire AMMC staff’s dedication to improving the patient experience,” said Ron Rooney, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center President. AMMC is ranked as one of the top hospitals in the state due to its unmatched excellence of care. Medicare’s ranking of hospitals across the United States places AMMC at the top of the list among the three largest Northeast Arkansas hospitals in recognizing heart failure, getting patients immediate, appropriate treatment and making sure they have proper discharge instructions. A nationally recognized healthcare rating service has given both orthopedic services and surgery at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center five stars, its highest ranking. AMMC received the 2007 Innovator Award from the Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care.

## AMMC CORPORATE BOARD MEETING (2/3) July 16, 2007

This award is given to healthcare facilities that share innovative and successful strategies with other providers, and also act as mentors. The Innovator Award recognized AMMC's development of a process to lower the risks of complications for Pneumonia patients, which is now being used in other Arkansas hospitals. Arkansas Methodist was also one of only 25 hospitals in the state recognized by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services due to its Medicaid rating. AMMC excelled in overall performance standards of quality care, and received nearly \$90,000 dollars to help offset the balance of patient healthcare not covered by the Medicaid program. Arkansas Methodist Medical Center has also received top honors by the Arkansas Hospital Association. AMMC has been awarded four Diamond Awards for "*It's all about you*" marketing and public relations campaign.

In terms of finances, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, a not-for-profit facility, closed the 2007 fiscal year with a positive bottom line. Revenue was up nearly one percent over this time last year. In terms of community benefit, during the past three years AMMC has returned more than 100-million dollars into the local economy, of which, more than 26 million was provided in salaries, wages and benefits during the 2007 financial year. AMMC did not achieve its status as a Beacon of Health, Hope and Healing by limiting outstanding care to only those with insurance and means to pay. More than eight million dollars in free health care was given during 2007 making AMMC one of the largest charity organizations in the state.

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center expanded the scope of care during 2007 with the addition of five new doctors that have already started new procedures at AMMC: Dr. Robert Alleman, *General/Vascular Surgery*; Dr. Paul Becton, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*; Dr. Karl Hasik, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*; Dr. Adel Hassan, *General Surgery* and Dr. Aaron Thompson, *Family Practice*.

Each one of us at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center live by the motto "*It's all about you.*" Every member of the AMMC family is a committed partner in providing the best possible care from the time a patient comes through our doors until they return home. Excellent service is a vital part of who we are at Arkansas Methodist. We use Press Ganey, an independent service to monitor patient satisfaction. During 2007, AMMC's patient satisfaction scores made a steady, upward climb.

## AMMC CORPORATE BOARD MEETING (3/3) July 16, 2007

Arkansas Methodist Hospital Corporation recognized its officers for their exceptional leadership during the past year including: George Cook, *Chairman*; Jannie Distretti, *Vice Chairman*; Paul Hill, *Secretary* and Pat Quinn, *Treasurer*. 2007 Directors also honored for excellent leadership include: Sherland Hamilton; Darrell Bonner, M.D.; Rev. Paul Dubar; Bill Fisher; Angela Gray; Tom Kirk; Alvin Samuel; W.T. Shewmaker; C.B. Smith and Dwight Williams, M.D. Mrs. Distretti will serve as *Chairman* for the 2008 operating year.

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center is taking steps toward the future with a progressive plan for the 2008 financial year, which will deliver more advanced state-of-art healthcare. “Our vision for the future continues with the focus on a new Patient Tower,” said George Cook, Arkansas Methodist Hospital Corporation Chairman. “We are committed to continue recruitment of more specialties and provide new service options.” AMMC is expecting to break ground, possibly within twelve months, on construction of our new Patient Tower. Architectural work has been completed with AMMC now concentrating on finalizing financial plans and property acquisition. The Patient Tower will continue our mission of providing second to none healthcare that our community and region deserve.

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center is a 129-bed, fully JCAHO accredited, not-for-profit medical center. AMMC has touched thousands of lives since 1949 as a Beacon of Health, Hope and Healing. Additional AMMC information is available at [www.arkansasmethodist.org](http://www.arkansasmethodist.org).