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# Southeast Hospital Receives Pediatric Emergency Designation

JUNE 23RD 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Southeast Hospital Receives Pediatric Emergency Designation

Southeast Hospital is the first hospital in Missouri to be certified as a Pediatric Emergency Prepared Facility. The certification is through Missouri Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC), a federally funded grant program that aims to decrease child morbidity and mortality in emergency settings.

Nationally, about 80 percent of pediatric patients are seen in community and general adult emergency departments, and about 50 percent of children are seen in emergency departments with a low pediatric volume (fewer than five pediatric patients a day).

Southeast Hospital initially took interest in the certification after Lori Merritt, director of emergency services, joined the Missouri EMSC advisory committee in 2021. For the last six months, Merritt and her ER teams have improved and prioritized pediatric care through training, education, quality improvement and age-appropriate equipment. Merritt notes that pediatric cases make up about 14 percent of patient volume.

She says that the ability to prioritize pediatric patients just as hospitals prioritize adult stroke and STEMI heart attacks (a type of heart attack that is known to be more severe and dangerous than other types of heart attack) can “greatly improve outcomes and health equity of children in Missouri. Visiting the emergency department can be stressful for children. We are committed to providing excellent care to young patients while also easing their fears and making their ER visit as pleasant as possible. This certification validates that long-standing commitment.”

Danielle Lee, Missouri EMSC program manager, said, “We were honored to work with SoutheastHEALTH and their team on our first Pediatric Emergency Prepared Facility. The time and effort that SoutheastHEALTH has put into developing this program not only affects outcomes of children within the community, but also benefits children all over Missouri.”

She added, “SoutheastHEALTH has set the standard for hospitals of its size on how to appropriately prepare for the care of a child during an emergency. I look forward to the mentorship that SoutheastHEALTH can offer to other hospitals committed to do the same for children within their communities.”

Along with Missouri, 22 other states in the nation have pediatric recognition programs in place.

About SoutheastHEALTH

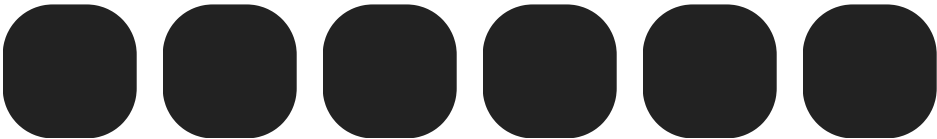
At SoutheastHEALTH, the region's premier healthcare system in southeast Missouri, patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within the SoutheastHEALTH network are 48 care locations in 11 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing 52 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. Learn more at SEhealth.org.

Southeast Hospital is the first hospital in Missouri to be certified as a Pediatric Emergency Prepared Facility through Missouri Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC). Shown at a recognition ceremony here are, from the left, Maria Sudak, SoutheastHEALTH chief operating officer; Scott Bond, SoutheastHEALTH Information Systems, Terry Cuellar, SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital pediatric outreach coordinator; Danielle Lee, Missouri EMSC program manager; Lori Merritt, director of SoutheastHEALTH Emergency Services; and Sarah Foote, SoutheastHEALTH Emergency Services charge nurse.

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# Tobacco Cessation Classes

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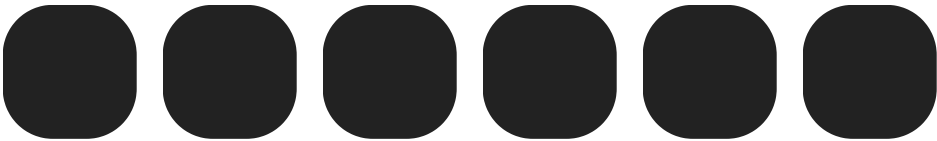
Southeast Health Center of Stoddard County FREE Tobacco Cessation Classes

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## SoutheastHEALTH of Stoddard County Opens Specialty Clinic

MARCH 30TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

SoutheastHEALTH of Stoddard County Opens Specialty Clinic

“It is great to see you here today as we celebrate another step forward for Southeast Health of Stoddard County,” said Southeast Health of Stoddard County CEO Sue Ann Williams. “With the open house showcasing our new Specialty Clinic.”

Southeast Health of Stoddard County cut the ribbon Thursday afternoon on its new Specialty Clinic. Area residents can receive cancer treatment locally.

SoutheastHEALTH President and CEO Ken Bateman speaks at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

“As SoutheastHealth continues to grow with service offerings,” said Williams. “There is potential to bring additional services to the clinic, including gastroenterology, orthopedics and more.”

SoutheastHealth President and CEO Ken Bateman stepped to the mic next.

“In a little over eight years I have really seen this facility transform throughout those years,” said Bateman. “As you know SoutheastHeath acquired this facility in 2013. As part of this partnership we have committed to adding new services, new facilities, new technologies throughout the years.”

“And most notably some of those improvements have been a new Southeast Medical Plaza which is linked to the hospital,” Bateman continued. “We added a new emergency department, which has substantially increased our ability to serve this community with higher volumes.”

Bateman said the emergency department saw 13,000 visits in 2022. Bateman pointed out the new voluntary Behavioral Health Center as well. The Behavioral Health Center has 16 private rooms.

Bateman said the hospital is in the process of installing a new cat scan/MRI unit.

“Overall through the years we have a total of \$27 million in new facilities, technologies and improvements for this campus,” said Bateman. “And we are just getting started.”

Bateman extended a special thanks to Matt and Marissa Mills for the donation in honor of their grandparents C.B. Adams and W.L. Conner which helped make the clinic a reality.

Dr. Andrew Moore then spoke about the clinic itself.

“This is a special day,” said Moore. “Next month will be nine years since we started coming to Dexter for our oncology specialty clinic.”

Moore said it started as every other Thursday morning with maybe 4 to 6 treatments a month. Now that number has grown to every Tuesday and Thursday with two providers averaging 40 treatments per week.

Moore said this includes chemotherapy, immunotherapy, with around 80 patients seen per week.

“The growth is there, but that tells you the need is there,” said Moore. “When we look at our geographic region, not only nation wide but even in the state, we are all aware that our cancer rates are high. But if you look at a heat map of the United States, per capita cancer rates, we are higher here in Southeast than anywhere in the United States.”

Moore said the hospital had patients from 13 counties in Southeast Missouri and Northeast Arkansas. He said the new clinic is saving the patients 100 to 200 miles round trip.

“Unfortunately life does not stop for these patients because they get a cancer diagnosis,” said Mooer. “Or they need treatments, the gas money they save or the time their friends and loved ones don’t have to take off work to take them to treatments, those are the intangibles we cannot measure.”

“I would like to echo Mr. Bateman’s points and thanks to Matt and Marissa,” said Moore. “Because I don’t know of more immediately impactful dollars that could have been spent in this region than to do what you allowed us to do.”

The new clinic will offer hematology, oncology and lab services. Oncology services were available at the hospital but the services were located in different areas across the campus. The patients had to go to the main building to register and get labs. The patient would then go to a separate building in Doctor’s Park to see the doctor and back to the main building for their infusion. Then a few hours later the patient would go home. The new clinic will centralize these services in one location, easing the stress and process on the patients.

The new clinic features a lab, exam rooms in which to see the doctor and infusion rooms.

“I don’t know how some of our patients did it,” said Moore. “It shows how tough they are, our staff pushing wheelchairs up the hill. It is amazing we were able to do the treatments that we did.”

“This really is much needed, will be so utilized,” Moore continued. “I just thank everybody that is here in the community. Dexter always amazes me with the amount of community support.”

Moore then acknowledged a long time patient whom Moore said made it her life’s mission to see this clinic become a reality. Moore said the patient learned the clinic was going to be a reality prior to her death.

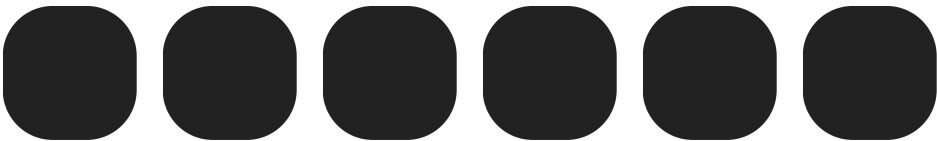
“She is smiling down on us today,” said Moore. “And she is loving this.”

Pictured are from left to right front row only: Jennifer Ewert, Director of Southeast Cancer Center, Matt and Marissa Mills, Dr. Andrew Moore, Ken Bateman, President and CEO of SoutheastHEALTH, Dr. Reza Jalal, Sue Ann Williams, Southeast Health Center of Stoddard County CEO, Dr. Matt Janzow, SoutheastHEALTH Chief Medical Officer, and Mayor Jason Banken.

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## 27th Annual Sounds of the Season Benefit Concert

NOVEMBER 28TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

27th Annual Sounds of the Season Benefit Concert

Join Southeast Health Foundation on Sunday, December 4, 2022, for their 27th Annual Sounds of the Season Benefit Concert!

Proceeds from the concert benefit patients and families at the Southeast Cancer Center with medication, transportation, lodging, nutritional supplements, medical equipment and more. All proceeds stay local and help our friends, family and neighbors here in our community.

Enjoy an afternoon of holiday music performed by local musical talent including:

Dr. Andrew Moore

Brothers Walker

Casie Mills

Clayton Hahs

Charleston Christmas Ensemble Choir

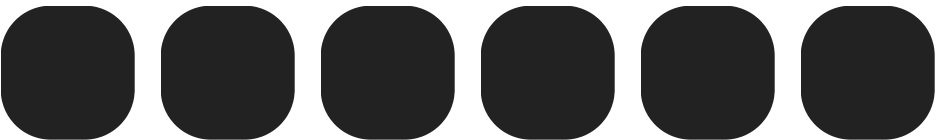
Jackson East Elementary Kids Choir

Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities are available at <https://www.sehfoundation.org/events/sounds-of-the-season/>

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# Southeast Hospital Nationally Recognized with an ‘A’ Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade

NOVEMBER 20TH 2022 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Southeast Hospital Nationally Recognized with an ‘A’ Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade

Southeast Hospital has received an “A” [for the sixth consecutive time in the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade](#) for fall 2022. This national distinction recognizes Southeast’s achievements in protecting patients from preventable harm and error in the hospital.

“Patient safety is always top of mind,” said President and CEO Ken Bateman. “Our team of healthcare professionals does incredible work toward ensuring a safe, friendly environment for patients while delivering high quality outcomes. It is an honor to receive this recognition once again.”

For the state of Missouri, Southeast Hospital is one out of 14 hospitals to have received this achievement for fall 2022, and Southeast is one out of just four Missouri hospitals to earn this distinction six times in a row.

The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog organization, assigns an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” or “F” grade to general hospitals across the country based on over 30 national performance measures reflecting errors, accidents, injuries and infections, as well as systems hospitals have in place to prevent harm.

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is the only hospital ratings program based exclusively on hospital prevention of medical errors and harms to patients. The grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public. Grades are updated twice annually, in the fall and spring.

“I applaud Southeast Hospital leadership and the workforce for their strong commitment to safety and transparency,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “An ‘A’ Safety Grade is a sign that hospitals are continuously evaluating their performance, so that they can best protect patients. Your hospital team should be extremely proud of this achievement.”

To see Southeast Hospital’s full grade details and to access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit [HospitalSafetyGrade.org](https://HospitalSafetyGrade.org) and follow [The Leapfrog Group](#) on Twitter, Facebook, and via its newsletter.

### About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, [The Leapfrog Group](#) is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward for patient safety. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#) and new [Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Survey](#) collect and [transparently report](#) hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The [Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade](#), Leapfrog’s other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections. For more, [follow us on Twitter and Facebook](#), and [sign up for our newsletter](#).

### About SoutheastHEALTH

At SoutheastHEALTH, the region’s premier healthcare system in southeast Missouri, our patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within our network are more than 51 care locations in 11 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing over 30 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. Learn more at [SEhealth.org](https://SEhealth.org).

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