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## Winchester Place Assisted Living Celebrates Christmas with Residents and Family

DECEMBER 20TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Winchester Place Assisted Living Celebrates Christmas with Residents and Family

Winchester Place Assisted Living enjoyed an afternoon with the residents with a Christmas party.

"We are so thankful to family and friends that came to celebrate with their loved ones today. Merry Christmas from Winchester Place!"

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## 39th Stoddard County Ambulance District's "Home for the Holiday's" Project

DECEMBER 17TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

### 39th Stoddard County Ambulance District's "Home for the Holiday's" Project

**It is time once again for the Stoddard County Ambulance District "Home for the Holiday's" project.**

**"We are very excited to help our citizens home this holiday season," commented *Crystal Gibson EMD-EMT-B***

**Stoddard County Ambulance District, Communications Supervisor. "We will be transporting patients' home on Christmas Ever and Christmas Day. It is our 39th year and we hope lots of families use this wonderful service to enjoy their holiday."**

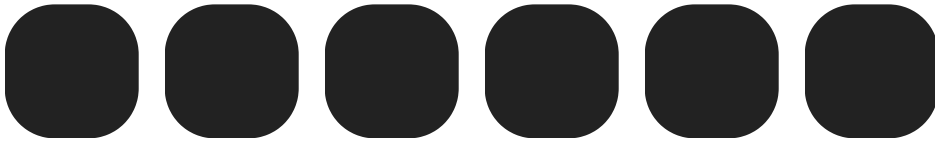
#### **Home for the Holidays**

**The following guidelines will be used for "Home for the Holidays" transports:**

- 1. Patients transported must be a resident of Stoddard County and be in a nursing home within the county.**
- 2. Patients will only be transported to a residence within Stoddard County.**
- 3. Transports will be made from 8 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m.**
- 4. All transports will be scheduled, however may be delayed due to any emergency calls.**
- 5. The family must make arrangements with the nursing home staff. The nursing home staff will then contact the Stoddard County Ambulance District Office. The office will then schedule the time that is closest to what the family would like.**
- 6. All patients must be in such a condition that they could not go home by any other means than by ambulance, without much difficulty. The staff at each nursing facility will make this determination. If you feel that the patient needs**

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## Claire Grisham, FNP-C, Joins Saint Francis Clinic - Dexter

DECEMBER 12TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Claire Grisham, FNP-C, Joins Saint Francis Clinic - Dexter](#)

Saint Francis Healthcare System is pleased to welcome Claire Grisham, FNP-C, to Saint Francis Clinic - Dexter, a Saint Francis Medical Partner.

Grisham completed her medical education in 2023 at Walden University, Minneapolis, MN. She is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program. She specializes in primary care and urgent care.

Saint Francis Clinic - Dexter is located at 1212 Saint Francis Drive, Dexter, MO. To learn more about Grisham, visit [sfmc.net](http://sfmc.net) or call Saint Francis Clinic - Dexter at 573-614-3600.

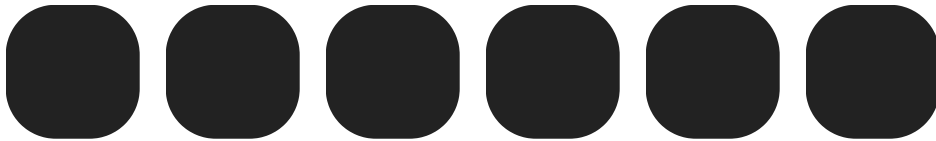
Saint Francis Healthcare System is guided by our mission to provide a ministry of healing, wellness, quality and love inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ. Founded by Franciscan Sisters in 1875, our priority remains the same: serve all who enter with dignity, compassion and joy.

Anchored by Saint Francis Medical Center, a 306-bed tertiary hospital, and supported by nearly 3,000 employees and more than 250 providers in eight communities, the Healthcare System is a driving economic force in the region. Major services include the Cancer Institute, Emergency and Level III Trauma Center, Family BirthPlace and the region's only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Heart Hospital, Neurosciences and Orthopedics.

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## A Local Force Supporting Southeast Missouri Veterans

NOVEMBER 18TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

[A Local Force Supporting Southeast Missouri Veterans](#)

## *A Local Force Supporting Southeast Missouri Veterans*

*Southeast Missouri— A dedicated group of individuals has united to form The United for Veterans (UFV) Fundraiser, a foundation committed to supporting local veterans organizations and honoring their service. Inspired by Lynn Richardet's passion for Missouri's National Veterans Memorial (MNVM) and the L.O.V. (Love Our Veterans) event in St. Louis, the UFV Fundraiser aims to create a local event that uplifts Southeast Missouri veteran organizations.*

*Lynn Richardet approached Joe Hobbs, now the Chairman of The UFV Fundraiser, with this vision during a lunch meeting. "I had no idea it was coming," Hobbs recalls. "Lynn felt we needed a local event to help Southeast Missouri veteran organizations, specifically the Stars and Stripes Museum." This conversation led to the formation of a diverse board of directors, including veterans, business leaders, and community advocates, all dedicated to supporting local veteran initiatives.*

*The inaugural UFV Fundraiser was a resounding success, raising over \$200,000, with Mercy serving as the presenting sponsor. The funds have been strategically allocated to various veteran-focused organizations:*

- \$22,500 to the Avenue of Flags in Cape Girardeau for memorial flag storage*
- \$47,500 to Missouri's National Veterans Memorial in Perryville for a PTSD garden*
- \$22,500 to the Stars and Stripes National Museum and Library, enabling the curator to travel to Germany for bound volumes of Stars & Stripes newspapers*
- \$22,500 to the Missouri Veterans Home in Cape Girardeau for an outdoor pavilion*

*Additionally, the UFV Fundraiser provided \$1,000 each to several local supporting groups, including the Rotary Club Southeast service, The Pike Fraternity, and PAVE, which assists local veterans.*

*Joe Hobbs, whose father served in the Air Force, emphasizes the importance of supporting veterans: "We owe so much to them. My father raised me to respect our country and support veterans, and that's exactly what we're doing with The UFV Fundraiser."*

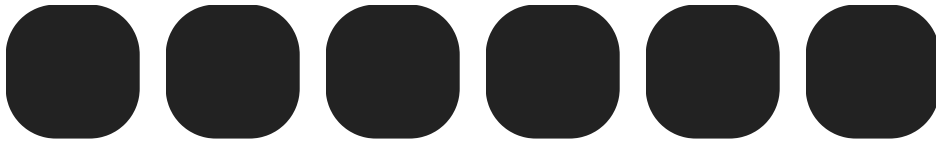
*Looking ahead, the UFV Fundraiser has set ambitious goals for their next event, scheduled for September 13, 2025, aiming to increase table sales from 31 to 55. Mercy has already committed to being the presenting sponsor for next year's event, reflecting the community's ongoing support.*

*The UFV Fundraiser encourages local businesses and community members to contribute through table purchases, sponsorships, and spreading awareness about the foundation's mission. For updates and information on how to get involved, follow their Facebook page.*

*As The UFV Fundraiser continues to grow, its impact on Southeast Missouri's veteran community is set to expand, ensuring that those who served are honored, remembered, and supported in meaningful ways.*

*For more information about The United for Veterans Fundraiser, please visit their Facebook page or email [UnitedForVeteransSemo@gmail.com](mailto:UnitedForVeteransSemo@gmail.com).*

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## Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center Launches Nurse Extern Program to Strengthen Local Healthcare Workforce

NOVEMBER 10TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center Launches Nurse Extern Program to Strengthen Local Healthcare Workforce

Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center (PBRMC) is excited to announce the launch of its new Nurse Extern Program, beginning November 8th, 2024. This initiative, led by PBRMC's Education Department, is designed to equip the next generation of nurses with critical hands-on experience and practical skills in various specialties. Our inaugural class includes 15 nurse externs, all of whom are actively enrolled in a pre-licensure registered nursing program.

The Nurse Extern Program offers nursing students an opportunity to apply their classroom learning in real-world settings. As they rotate through different nursing specialties, externs will gain firsthand experience under the mentorship of PBRMC's nursing team. This exposure is essential in preparing these students for successful careers upon graduation and empowers them to deliver high-quality care to our community.

"Our Nurse Extern Program is more than just an educational opportunity—it's about building a culture that values, mentors, and supports future nurses," said Carla Rider, CNO at PBRMC. "With this program, we aim to increase nurse retention at PBRMC, ensuring continuity of care and stability within our hospital and community."

This initiative is part of a broader collaborative effort to address workforce shortages and strengthen healthcare access across the region. PBRMC has partnered with Heartland Forward to create seamless pathways for students from secondary education into nursing programs and career apprenticeships.

As we welcome our first class of nurse externs, PBRMC is proud to lead initiatives that enrich the lives of future healthcare providers and positively impact our community.

"By investing in our workforce today, we are building a stronger, healthier tomorrow for Southeast Missouri," said Clyde Wood, CEO.

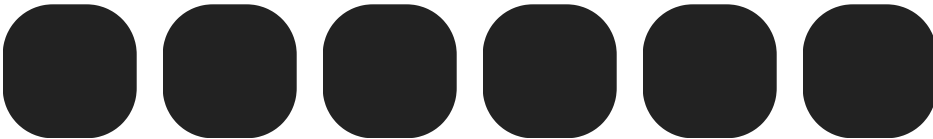
**About Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center:**

Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center is located in Poplar Bluff, Missouri and serves Butler County and seven other surrounding counties. PBRMC is committed to meeting our community's healthcare needs by providing compassionate, quality patient care. The medical center offers a wide range of services, including oncology, cardiology, orthopedics, robotic surgery, women's health and more. Learn more at PBRMC.com

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