

History

cookeville regional
medical center



— *Because We Care* —
The Foundation At CRMC

The Foundation At Cookeville Regional Medical Center

1921

- Dr. William Howard opened Howard Hospital, the city's first medical facility. The building later housed the Clara Cox Epperson Library. Though Howard Hospital was limited in patient services, it was an improvement over operations on kitchen tables by lamplight. Many critically ill patients no longer had to be sent to Nashville by train – a jolting ride that usually took four hours.

1950

- After physicians convinced the community of the need for a modern local facility, Cookeville General Hospital was dedicated on the present hospital's site. Three days later, the first baby was delivered, and the following day doctors performed the first operation in the new facility.

1957

- The current S Wing was added at a cost of \$1 million. The air conditioned new wing included modern surgical rooms, and for the first time oxygen was piped into patient rooms.

1969

- Ground-breaking for a four-story addition on Fifth Street took place, and the expansion opened in 1971. The first floor contained Administration, Data Processing, Maintenance, Dietary, and a new lobby and waiting area. The second floor housed X-ray, Laboratory Services, Nursing Services, and the Emergency Room. The third floor included the Coronary Care Unit. The fourth floor was shelled for future use.

1973

- The Respiratory Therapy Department was opened, enabling physicians to conduct diagnostic testing without having to refer patients to other hospitals.

1974

- A Minimal Care Unit was opened in A Wing to provide lower cost services to patients who needed diagnostic studies but required less physical assistance.

- The Nuclear Medicine Department, with the latest in radioisotope equipment, was added.

1976

- Construction was begun on a \$2.2 million phase, one of a five-phase expansion to add a fifth-floor shell, 55 patient beds, a new clean-air surgical room, a seven-bed Intensive Care Unit, two new elevators, expanded parking and a Materials Handling Center.

1977

- An expansion of the Radiology Department was begun.

1978

- A new fifth-floor patient care area was dedicated in the space that was shelled two years earlier.

1979

- A long-range planning study resulted in plans for a new six-story building, with the sixth floor shelled. The building would include major replacement facilities, an operating suite, Obstetrics, Emergency Room, Central Supply and a new lobby.

1982

- A new six-story building was opened, and extensive additions to medical equipment were installed, including a monitor system for Obstetrics and the latest model computed tomographic mammography scanner.

1984

- A vacuum transport system was installed in the Phlebotomy Station.

1989

- The Imaging Department services were expanded dramatically due to the purchase of two new nuclear medicine gamma cameras, two ultrasound units, and a mobile magnetic resonance imaging system.

- A Neurosurgery Clinic was opened in partnership with Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Department of Neurological Surgery, and offered the convenience of locally available diagnosis and treatment services.

1991

- A Pulmonary Clinic was opened on the hospital campus.

1992

- A permanent magnetic resonance imaging unit was installed at Cookeville General Hospital.
- A mobile mammography unit was purchased and began serving the community by visiting industrial sites.
- The Cookeville Community Clinic was established for noninsured residents with incomes below the federal poverty level. The free clinic was the first of its kind to open in Tennessee and was one of only 86 in the nation.

1993

- The Professional Office Building was opened to aid in recruiting physicians.

1994

- The Express Care Clinic was opened to treat Emergency Room patients who suffered from minor illnesses and injuries.

- The Heart Center was opened and began offering basic cardiac tests and procedures, including cardiac catheterization.

1995

- An on-site lithotripsy unit was purchased so treatment for kidney stones could be offered seven days a week.

- A new Angiography Suite was opened, making Cookeville General the only hospital in the Upper Cumberland to offer angiography services and vascular surgery.

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1996

- The Board of Trustees voted to change the hospital's name to Cookeville Regional Medical Center (CRMC) to more correctly identify the scope of services it provided.

1998

- The Open-Heart Surgery Unit was opened after years of planning and preparation, and the first open-heart surgery in Cookeville was performed on April 15.

1999

- Open house was held for staff and the public for a \$23 million expansion begun in 1996 and housing Same-Day Surgery, the Laboratory, The Cancer Center, Gift Shop, Registration and Emergency Services.
- The new Obstetrics Unit was opened.

2000

- The Education Center was dedicated with more than 200 people in attendance.

2001

- CRMC's second fixed Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory was opened on the third floor.
- A helipad was constructed to offer helicopter transport of patients and visiting physicians.
- The redesigned Fifth St. parking lot, providing 200 more parking spaces, was opened.

2002

- A new parking lot and drive-through canopied entrance were completed on the north side.
- A six-bed Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit was opened, which offered one-on-one patient care.
- The Pharmacy was relocated to a larger area on the second floor to improve efficiency.
- Construction was begun on a new Rehabilitation and Outpatient Therapy Center, featuring a gym and therapy areas, a dining room, an education area and an outdoor mobility garden.

- Construction was begun on a \$6.2 million expansion to double the size of the cafeteria and kitchen.

- The Women's Center moved from its location on Fifth St. to the hospital's second floor and purchased new mammography equipment to provide gentler, more comfortable mammograms with a lower dose of X-ray.

2003

- The Sleep Center was moved into the Professional Office Building, doubling its size.

- The Rehabilitation Center was opened at 251 West Sixth St. with a 20-bed Acute Care Inpatient Unit.

- The Imaging Center's renovated facility was opened and was equipped with state-of-the-art technology.

2004

- A \$3.5 million Upper Cumberland Physician's Ambulatory Surgery Center was opened on Fourth St. representing CRMC's first joint venture with area physicians.

2005

- The latest technology in magnetic resonance imaging equipment was purchased and installed.
- The Outpatient Lab was renovated.
- The Same-Day Surgery Waiting Room was renovated.
- A plan was approved by the Board of Trustees, and a Steering Committee was established to develop designs for a new patient wing with a new main entrance and a shelled addition for future surgical use. Recommendations also included moving an expanded Cancer Center to the new wing.

2006

- The Sleep Center was expanded and moved to 100 West Fourth Street.
- The Diabetes Center relocated from the Cookeville Mall to 127 North Oak Avenue.
- Work began on the \$80-million, six-story North Patient Tower, which would house a new main entrance, admissions, general public information, outpatient lab, gift shop, coffee

shop, chapel, library, an expanded Cancer Center, and four floors of private patient rooms, including a 30-bed ICU.

- The Foundation office opened at 127 North Oak Avenue.

2007

- The board approved an expansion of the OB unit, the new Outpatient Imaging Center and Women's Center opened, and the Heart Center was renamed the Heart and Vascular Center to reflect expanded services.

2008

- The North Patient Tower was officially dedicated December 12, 2008, doubling the size of CRMC.

2009

- A TomoTherapy treatment system – one of only two in the state -- was installed, expanding radiation services in the Cancer Center.

2010

- Renovations were completed to Obstetrics, with the number of labor, delivery and recovery suites increasing to 12.

2011

- Major expansions in the surgery center, including new operating suites, and an electrophysiology procedure room in the Heart and Vascular Center, were approved.



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