

RMC Connection

News from Regional Medical Center

July 2025

New Surgery Addition & Radiology Remodel

Building for Better

PAGE 3



Happy Birthday RMC

Celebrating 75 Years

PAGE 2

RMC Recognized As

A GREAT PLACE TO WORK

BACK COVER

Donate Blood

PAGE 5



As Regional Medical Center (RMC) celebrates a significant milestone this year, marking 75 years of service to our communities, we are grateful for the vision of our predecessors who established hospital services in Delaware County in 1950, and for the countless individuals who have contributed to the growth and enhancement of those services over the years. Below are some updates on the current state of RMC:

Workforce: While the healthcare labor market has improved with more young people entering the field, workforce shortages in certain specialty areas, particularly physician specialists, remain a challenge. We appreciate the dedication of our 535 employed team members and numerous contracted specialists who contribute their skills to serve our communities.

Facility Improvements: The Surgery addition and Radiology renovation projects that are underway are important investments in the future health of our communities and demonstrate our commitment to modernizing RMC's facilities.

Financial Health: The rising costs of healthcare continue to exceed the reimbursements provided to hospitals by insurance companies and the government, making it crucial that we effectively prioritize our investments and manage cost structures to ensure fiscal sustainability.

Volumes: Many of our service lines continue to see high volumes, with especially strong growth in our Lab, Radiology and Therapy Services, and in our Emergency Department where we now see an average of over 20 patient visits per day.

CEO Update



Danette Kramer, CEO

"We remain so appreciative for the support of our patients and communities. Thank you for putting your trust in us!"

Danette Kramer

Submit Your Photos



The corridors of RMC are full of life because of members of our community. We love bringing visuals from our community inside our walls and displaying them for all to see. As our hospital continues to grow and evolve, we will be adding more photographs throughout our facilities.

From amateur to professional, we invite you to submit your photos for consideration.

SCAN QR CODE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS





Big Birthday. Bigger Heart. 75 Years of RMC.

In August 2025, RMC will celebrate its 75th birthday. Originally established as Delaware County Memorial Hospital on August 7, 1950, we remain dedicated to our mission of providing healthcare services to our beloved communities.

Over the Years

1950	Our doors opened as Delaware County Memorial Hospital.
1977	New 58-bed hospital addition was completed.
1990	Merged with Delaware County Public Health.
1999	Changed our name to Regional Medical Center.
2004	19,000 sq. feet added to west side of RMC.
2009	Formed Family Practice division known as Regional Family Health.
2015	River Ridge Pavilion opened.
2025	Began construction on new surgery addition.



Betsy Fessler



Bev Preussner



Rosie Doyle

Through Their Eyes

Betsy Fessler is a longtime patient of RMC. She was part of the 4-H club that gave tours to the public when the hospital first opened in 1950. When asked about her experience, Betsy shared, "People were excited to see it and to have a hospital in the area."

Bev Preussner knew she wanted to become a nurse after attending the hospital's open house back in 1950. Following her graduation, she worked as a nurse at RMC for 27 years. After her retirement, her commitment to RMC continued with 10 years of serving on the RMC Governing Board of Trustees. When asked to describe RMC in a couple of words, Bev noted "very dedicated and professional staff."

Rosie Doyle celebrated her 101st birthday this year. Through her years, she has seen our hospital grow in many ways. Some of her favorite memories come from the time she volunteered with the Auxiliary at the gift shop and helping with mail delivery. When asked about the lasting impact of RMC, Rosie expressed that "the level of care has never changed, very good care."

WATCH INTERVIEWS | @regmedctr



75th Birthday Party

YOU'RE INVITED • LIVE MUSIC • FREE • ALL WELCOME

AUGUST

7

Thursday, August 7th | 6-9 PM
White Water Park | Manchester, IA

The Avey Growls Band

IN CONJUNCTION WITH CITY OF MANCHESTER'S MUSIC ON THE MAQUOKETA

Building for Better *Surgery Addition*

COMING SUMMER 2026!



Construction is underway at RMC. On Monday, June 9, 2025, we broke ground embarking on a \$30 million construction project including the expansion of our Surgical Services Department and renovation of our Radiology Department. The 18,000 square foot Surgery addition is slated for completion in the summer of 2026.

The expansion will introduce a new operating room, bringing the total to four and will incorporate over \$1 million in state-of-the-art surgical equipment in each room. This addition will also include 12 spacious pre-operative and post-operative rooms, designed with natural light to promote patient comfort and healing. These rooms will be optimally sized to accommodate modern medical equipment and ensure ample space for both patients and staff.

Beyond the operating and recovery areas, the surgery addition will feature an endo (procedure) room, a dedicated nurses station to enhance staff efficiency and

a centralized sterile processing area. The new construction is located at the northeast corner of the existing building, behind River Ridge Pavilion.

This expansion is driven by the need to modernize and enlarge current surgical spaces, allowing our surgery team to provide the most optimal care to the patients we serve.

A Fresh Look in **Radiology**

Patients in Manchester will soon benefit from a revitalized Radiology Department as the renovation project will begin in August. This initiative is projected to be concluded in the spring of 2026, focusing on enhancing the comfort and functionality of key areas within the department. The renovation will see significant updates to four crucial imaging rooms: two ultrasound rooms, the mammography suite and the bone density room. These will be completely gutted and redesigned to offer a spacious and modern environment for patients. Additionally, our current x-ray rooms will receive a face-lift along with the expansion of our Radiology waiting room.

While the focus of this renovation is on the physical spaces, it's important to note that the existing medical equipment will remain in place. The goal for this renovation project is to create a more comfortable and efficient setting for both patients and staff.



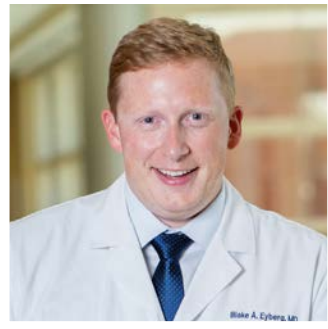
New Orthopedic Specialists

We are pleased to announce Dr. Omar Akhtar and Dr. Blake Eyberg, along with Nurse Practitioners, Jennifer Botsford, Sarah Gates and Erin Roberts from Physicians' Clinic of Iowa, P.C. (PCI), will be providing Orthopedic services at the RMC Speciality Clinic in Manchester. These visiting specialists from Cedar Rapids are Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery, providing surgical and non-surgical services. RMC's Specialty Clinic is where visiting specialists from across the region travel to Manchester to provide care, close to home. Talk to your primary healthcare provider about being referred to the Speciality Clinic.



Omar H. Akhtar, MD, FAAOS, FAAHKS

"Your trust is my responsibility I take personally and very seriously. I put the patient's needs and desires first before all else."



Blake A. Eyberg, MD

"I take pride in providing conservative, evidence-based solutions for each patient, based on their goals."



Jennifer Botsford
ARNP, FNP-C



Sarah Gates
ARNP, FNP-C



Erin Roberts
ARNP, FNP-C, ONP-C



RMC Specialty Clinic
Manchester, Iowa
563-927-7301

Anonymous RMC Raves

"Dr. Andrew Pepper (Family Practice) was very detail oriented and stayed with us as long as we needed. He was wonderful!"

"Alyssa Lux (OB) was very kind, compassionate and went above and beyond during our stay. She explained things well and it was obvious she truly cared. Outstanding nurse!"

"Kaitlin Reece (Emergency) was amazing. Her bedside manner was so thoughtful and caring. She truly took the time to listen to my health concerns and explain all of my follow-up treatments. She is an excellent healthcare professional!"

"Denise Lympus (Med-Surg/ICU) went above and beyond our expectations for keeping myself and my family informed of progress, issues, treatment, etc. She's exceptional. So blessed that she was involved in my primary care!"

"Chris Kullmer (Therapy Services) was amazing and knowledgeable! I can't thank her enough for helping me."

Your Blood. Your Hospital.

*Donating blood takes less than an hour
and can save up to three lives.*



LifeServe Blood Center is a non-profit organization providing blood products and services to hospitals and communities in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Illinois since 1947. Donations to LifeServe directly support the local community, ensuring blood products remain within the region to aid neighbors, friends, family members and strangers. RMC transitioned to LifeServe for our primary blood product supplier on July 1, 2024, after working with them for many years. The success and impact that LifeServe blood drives have on RMC and the community is dependent on local donors and support. The blood donated will significantly impact the RMC community by supporting individuals in need, enabling donors to make a life-changing difference.



LifeServe Blood Center also offers the unique opportunity to personally thank the individuals who donate their time and blood to make healing possible. Through the Thank-The-Donor™ program with LifeServe, transfusion recipients can send anonymous letters of appreciation to the specific donor(s) whose donation helped them.

DONATE TODAY → regmedctr.org/blood



Celebrating Dr. Christiansen

Dr. Scot Christiansen has announced his retirement from OB and Family Practice after over 31 years of service to our community. He plans to retire from his practice on September 1, 2025. Although his career as a family and obstetric physician is coming to a close, Dr. Christiansen will continue overseeing many different areas as the Medical Director. Those areas include: Medical-Surgical/ICU, Wound Clinic, Procedure Center and Cardiac Rehab.



You're Invited!

DR. CHRISTIANSEN RETIREMENT RECEPTION

Sunday, September 7th

Edgewood Event Center • 11AM - 2PM • Open House • Free Light Lunch

Regional Family Health

As the Regional Family Health team in Edgewood prepares for a bittersweet farewell, they will continue to stay in good hands. Sara McCool, Nurse Practitioner, has joined the Edgewood team and will officially begin seeing patients beginning September 1st. Sara joins Nurse Practitioners Stephanie Gudenkauf and Bridget Baker, as well as Dr. Andrew Pepper. We thank the Edgewood community for their continued trust in us for their healthcare needs.

Auxiliary Donates Over \$15,000

The RMC Auxiliary is a member-based program whose mission is to support hospital services that benefit patients and the community. This group serves as a link between the hospital and community. Throughout the year they conduct fundraisers, the HILLTOP Gift Shop being their largest, to help keep our hospital thriving and reaching its goals. RMC Auxiliary had three major donations within the past year that benefited three departments:



\$6,250

THERAPY SERVICES

Play Structure

The play structure is designed to help enhance occupational, physical and speech therapies for young patients at RMC.



\$7,021

RADIOLOGY

MRI Safe Pulse Oximeter

This device is safe for the MRI area and allows staff to monitor patients' oxygen and pulse rate while the MRI exam is in process.



\$2,407

CARDIAC REHAB

AED

AEDs analyze a person's heart rhythm and deliver an electric shock to restore a normal heart rhythm, if necessary.



Volunteers Make a Difference

During National Volunteer Week, volunteers were treated to a special recognition breakfast. Pictured are a portion of our 60+ RMC volunteer team who were able to attend. Our RMC volunteers truly make a positive difference in the lives of so many in our community! We are actively seeking new volunteers.



Valerie Lindsay, Volunteer Services & Fund Development Manager
563-927-7534 | vlindsay@regmedctr.org

Support Today, Impact Tomorrow

Recently, members of the Manchester Masonic Lodge came together to donate \$5,000 to the RMC Endowment Fund. The mission of the Masonic Lodge is to support local charities and our community in varying ways. They felt strongly about giving back to our local not-for-profit hospital in helping to grow the Endowment Fund. "We really appreciate Regional Medical Center and want it to exist for future generations to come," shared Gary Rees. "That's why it's so important to help grow the hospital Endowment Fund."

What is an Endowment Fund? It is an investment fund that helps a non-profit focus on growing and saving funds. The principal amount that is donated stays intact while the investment income or growth is available for funding use by the non-profit. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference. Your donation will help RMC's mission and vision for healthcare close to home be a continued reality for generations to come.



Manchester Masonic Lodge

Pay To: RMC Endowment
Mail To: Donations, Regional Medical Center, PO Box 359, Manchester, IA 52057
Online: dbqfoundation.org/rmc

RMC ENDOWMENT FUND - GROW WITH US

GET AHEAD
OF THE GAME



SCHEDULE SPORTS PHYSICALS

563-927-7777

Regional Medical Center®

709 W Main St
PO Box 359
Manchester, IA 52057



**Great
Place
To
Work®**

Certified

DEC 2024-DEC 2025

USA

TM

A Great Place to Work

RMC is proud to be Certified™ by Great Place to Work®. This prestigious award is based entirely on what current employees say about their experience working at RMC. Great Place to Work® is the global authority on workplace culture, employee experience and the leadership behaviors proven to deliver market-leading revenues, employee retention and increased innovation. "Great Place To Work Certification is a highly coveted achievement that requires consistent and intentional dedication to the overall employee experience," says Sarah Lewis-Kulin, the Vice President of Global Recognition at Great Place to Work. "By successfully earning this recognition, it is evident that Regional Medical Center stands out as one of the top companies to work for, providing a great workplace environment for its employees."

Great Place to Work® Certification™ is the most definitive "employer-of-choice" recognition that companies aspire to achieve. It is the only recognition based entirely on what employees report about their workplace experience – specifically, how consistently they experience a high-trust workplace. Great Place to Work® Certification™ is recognized worldwide by employees and employers alike and is the global benchmark for identifying and recognizing outstanding employee experience. Every year, more than 10,000 companies across 60 countries apply to be Great Place to Work Certified™. RMC is honored to become Great Place to Work Certified™. "We owe our continued success to our team of dedicated employees and thank them for all they do to earn this incredible recognition," shared Danette Kramer, CEO.

WE ARE HIRING - VISIT OUR JOB BOARD!

