



Western Missouri Medical Center: A Legacy of Care OUR COMMUNITY ROOTS ARE DEEP

Celebrating a History of Hospitals in Warrensburg

1864 – 1866: Civil War Beginnings

- Dr. Alexander Reese, a native of Madison, Indiana, opened Warrensburg's first hospital during the Civil War.
- The hospital operated in a Presbyterian Church at 219 West Gay Street, serving Union soldiers and civilians.
- After the war, Dr. Reese continued to practice in Warrensburg, contributing significantly to the community. The Reese School was later named in his honor.

1908: Oak Hill Sanitarium

- Opened by Dr. Harry F. Parker at 519 South Holden with five patient rooms.
- The third floor served as the surgical area, taking advantage of large skylights.
- Oak Hill closed in 1937 when Dr. Parker became Missouri State Commissioner of Health.

1910: Gilkeson Home Hospital

- Drs. L. J. Schofield, W. R. Patterson, and O. B. Hall purchased the Gilkeson home at 122 East Market.
- The facility opened with seven patient beds and served the community through the 1930s.

1941 – 1945: Warrensburg Medical Clinic to Medical Center

- A \$45,000 remodel expanded the facility to 12 beds, named **The Warrensburg Medical Clinic**.
- In 1945, the physicians formed a nonprofit corporation, establishing **The Warrensburg Medical Center, Inc.**

1949 – 1959: Growth and Transition

- 1949: An 84-foot addition expanded patient care.



- 1959: Rising costs and new regulations led to the decision to close Warrensburg Medical Center, Inc.

1960 – 1963: Johnson County Memorial Hospital (JCMH)

- 1960: Johnson County voters approved a \$1.6 million bond to build a modern hospital.
- 1963: JCMH opened at 403 Burkarth with 58 beds. The first baby born was Julie Dianne Pfeffer on opening day.

1965 – 1969: Milestones in Care

- 1965: First set of twins born at JCMH.
- 1967: First accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.
- 1968: JCMH Gift Shop opened; Radiological Technology School approved.
- 1969: Increased patient workload led to closing the school and completing a 22-bed obstetrics/medical-surgical area.

1973: Expansion

- The C. W. Sheppard Wing added 20 beds with space for future expansion.

1960s – 1970s: Healthcare Advancements

- Birth of Medicare, Meals on Wheels preparation, chaplaincy program, and hospital renovations.

1980s: WMMC Formation

- Skilled Nursing Facility established.
- 1986: Johnson County Memorial Hospital renamed **Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC)**.

1990s: Technology and Accreditation

- New physicians joined, serving a growing community.
- 1996: Clinical documentation implemented on computer systems.
- WMMC earned **Accreditation with Commendation** from the Joint Commission, a distinction only 2% of hospitals nationwide have achieved.



2010 – 2011: Service Expansion

- 2010: Master Facility Plan initiated to expand the medical center to 215,000 sq. ft., including a new Patient Tower. Groundbreaking for \$51.5 million expansion.
- 2010: Western Missouri Family Health opened in Knob Noster, MO.
- 2011: Acquired Western Missouri Internal Medicine (formerly Warrensburg Medical Clinic).
- 2011: Diagnostic Imaging Department upgraded with MRI, CT, and advanced radiography.

2013 – 2014: New Medical Office Building (MOB)

- 2013: Groundbreaking for a three-story MOB, 43,298 sq. ft., housing multiple specialties.
- 2014: MOB completed, including Cancer Center, Pulmonology Clinic, Outpatient Lab, Cardiac/Pulmonary Department, Pain Center, Sleep Laboratory, and Surgical Services offices.

2016: Integrated Care

- Developed an **Integrated Community Care Model** to enhance care coordination and patient record integration. Our Primary Care clinics officially joined the WMMC team to provide leadership and continuity of care.
- Level III Stroke Designation
- Level III Trauma Designation

2018 – 2025: Continued Growth

- 2018: WMMC designated as a Level III STEMI (ST-elevation myocardial infarction, heart attack) Center
- 2019: Concordia Location Ribbon Cutting.
- 2019: Women's Health Remodel and Ribbon Cutting.
- 2021: Cancer Center opened.



- 2022: WMMC received a five-star overall hospital quality rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the highest rating a hospital can achieve.
- 2023: Opened Western Missouri Cardiology.
- 2024: The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for Primary Stroke Center Accreditation
- 2025: Dermatology & Medical Aesthetics opened; PET/CT Ribbon Cutting; recognized as a **Great Place to Work**.
- 2025: WMMC once again earned a prestigious 5-star rating from CMS—an honor achieved by only 10 hospitals in Missouri in 2025.

WMMC Today

Western Missouri Medical Center (WMMC) is a fully accredited, county-owned healthcare system based in Warrensburg, Missouri, proudly serving Johnson County and surrounding communities. As an independent, not-for-profit medical center, WMMC is committed to providing high-quality, compassionate care.

WMMC provides a broad range of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency and time-critical care, obstetrics, surgical services, primary and specialty care, rehabilitation, and diagnostic imaging. With a strong focus on patient experience, clinical excellence, and community health, WMMC continues to invest in advanced technology, dedicated providers, and innovative services to meet the evolving needs of the region.