



NEWS RELEASE

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AnMed Health and Elbert Memorial Hospital finalize affiliation *Agreement approved unanimously by both boards*

(Elberton, Ga. – Feb. 26, 2013) – After months of due diligence, tonight the Elberton-Elbert County Hospital Authority unanimously approved a 5-year affiliation/management agreement with AnMed Health. The affiliation gives AnMed Health management responsibility for the hospital's operations while allowing the hospital authority to maintain ownership of the hospital's building and license.

The affiliation will not cause any job losses at the hospital. Elbert Memorial Hospital's employees will maintain their current benefits and employment status. The hospital's chief executive officer, chief financial officer and chief nursing officer, will become employees of AnMed Health.

A board of advisors consisting of four representatives from AnMed Health, three members appointed by the hospital authority and one representative from the Elbert County community, mutually agreed upon by the Elberton-Elbert Memorial Hospital Authority and the AnMed Health Board of Trustees, will help guide operating decisions for Elbert Memorial Hospital.

“What's unique about this affiliation relationship is AnMed Health's desire to see Elbert Memorial Hospital meet the community's future changing healthcare needs,” said Hospital Authority Board Chairman Jim Lloyd. “They know first-hand the important role hospitals play in a community's health, employment and overall economic development and benefit. AnMed Health will be working with us to ensure quality health care is available in Elbert County for future generations.”

As part of the affiliation agreement, AnMed Health has committed to determining if Elbert Memorial Hospital could be designated as a Critical Access Hospital, allowing the hospital to receive better inpatient reimbursements. AnMed Health will also study the feasibility of developing and constructing a new hospital to replace the current building on Medical Drive in

Elberton. AnMed Health has committed \$1.5 million toward the development and construction of the new hospital.

AnMed Health has also committed \$150,000 for capital improvements and equipment during the first year. AnMed Health has also committed \$200,000 for physician recruitment and marketing each year during the first five years of the affiliation for a total physician recruitment and marketing commitment of \$1 million.

“These investments will allow us to bring more physicians and healthcare services to the community and build on an already strong foundation,” said John Miller, CEO of AnMed Health. “Elbert Memorial Hospital is a member of the AnMed Health family, so it’s important to us to support them just as we would any hospital that carries AnMed Health’s name.”

Miller said both organizations are committed to the relationship long term. “The initial affiliation agreement term is for five years, but our commitment to the community runs much deeper,” Miller said. “Through this affiliation partnership, AnMed Health and Elbert Memorial Hospital hope to earn the community’s trust and become their health care providers of choice.”

About AnMed Health

AnMed Health is a 638-bed, not-for-profit health system serving the Upstate and northeast Georgia. The health system is anchored by AnMed Health Medical Center, a 461-bed acute care hospital. AnMed Health also has a satellite North Campus which includes the AnMed Health Women’s and Children’s Hospital, the AnMed Health Rehabilitation Hospital, a comprehensive Cancer Center, physician offices and the Cardiac and Orthopedic Center. The health system’s network also includes affiliations with Cannon Memorial Hospital in Pickens and Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte. With roughly 400 physicians and more than 3,500 employees, AnMed Health is Anderson County’s largest employer. Learn more about us online at www.AnMedHealth.org.

About Elbert Memorial Hospital

Elbert Memorial Hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission and serves as the primary health care provider in Elbert County. The hospital is a 47-bed acute care facility governed by a local governmental authority board offering in-patient care and a full range of surgical and outpatient services. The hospital has a dedicated staff of approximately 218 full and part time employees and is the third largest public employer in Elbert County, contributing over \$28 million in local economic impact to the local economy.

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