

# Connecting with Rural Healthcare Communities

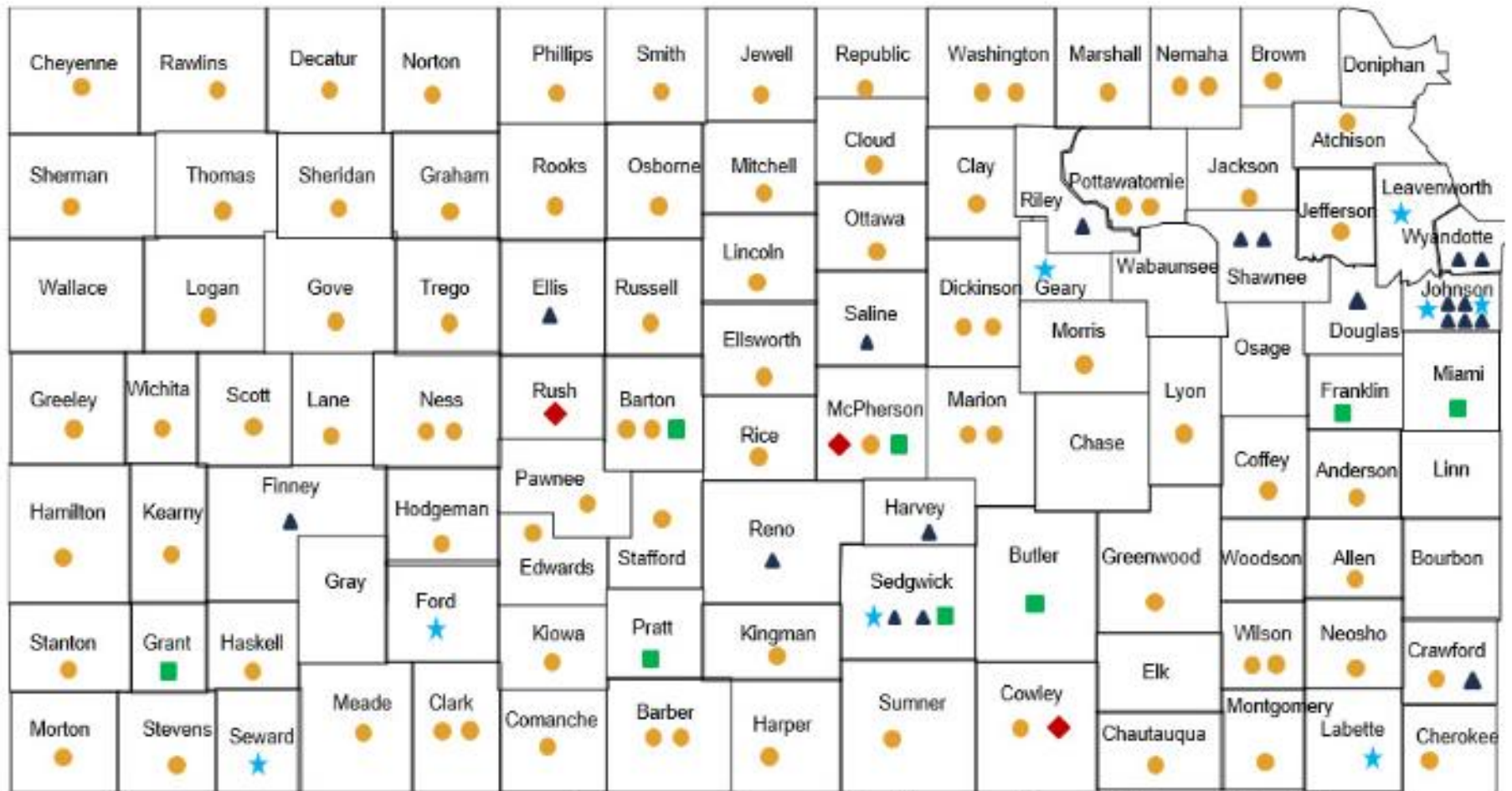
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Administrative Director, Regional Operations &  
Flint Hills Hospital Administrator



# Rural Healthcare

- People living in rural communities face numerous health disparities compared with their urban counterparts.
- Rural Residents face higher risks of death due to factors like limited access to specialized medical care, emergency services and exposure to specific environmental hazards.
- Rural residents are at higher risk of death in the leading causes of death:
  - Heart disease
  - Cancer
  - Unintentional injury
  - Chronic lower respiratory disease
  - Stroke



**Community Hospital Acute Licensed Bed Size**

- 25 and under    ★ 50-99
- 26-49        ▲ 100 and over
- ◆ Rural Emergency Hospital

# Community Hospitals

- Often the centerpiece of economic viability in rural America
- Often largest employer in a community
- One of the community's largest purchasers of goods and services
- Provide jobs for people who buy other services, pay taxes, etc. – ripple effect
- Every dollar spent by a hospital supports \$2.30 of additional business activity.

# The connection between health care services and local economic development

A strong health care system can:

- 1) help attract and maintain business and industry growth,
- 2) attract and retain retirees,
- 3) create jobs in the local area.



# Community Hospitals Challenges

- Between 2010 and 2021, 136 rural hospitals closed.
- Nineteen occurred in 2020, the most of any year in the past decade.
- Rural hospitals face significant staffing shortages.
- Only 10% of physicians in the United States practice in rural areas despite rural populations accounting for 14% of the population.
- KS tops the list with 32% (31) of rural hospitals at immediate risk of closing with 63% (62) are at moderate/high risk of closing.

# Herington Hospital closed, remains open for records handling through end of week

**HERINGTON HOSPITAL TO CLOSE**

**Employees notified Monday**

**13 WIBW**  
WIBW.com

**WEATHER**

**SILVER LAKE** 57° 8PM CLEAR

51° 10PM CLEAR

45° 1AM CLEAR

All services end on Monday. The building will remain open through the end of the week for people to retrieve their medical records.

# Flint Hills Campus



# Junction City, KS

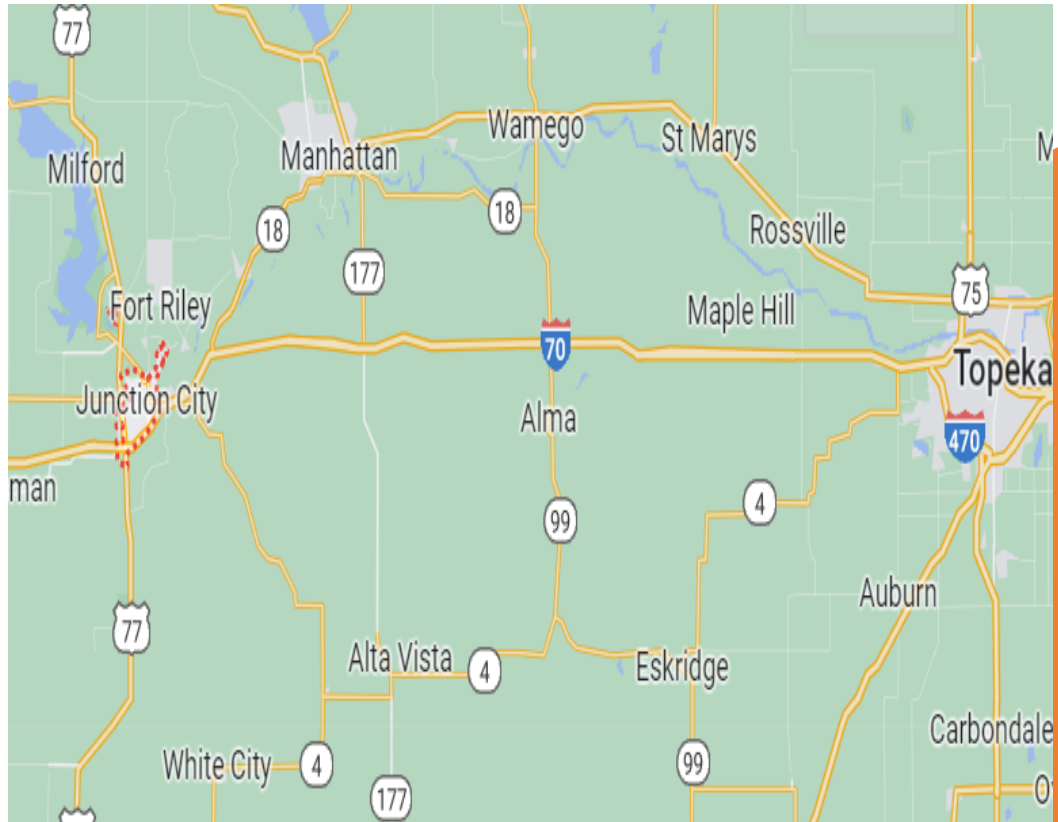
Geary County: 35,934 (2021) population

20 minutes to Manhattan, KS

10 minutes to Fort Riley

Geary Community Hospital:

- Original location started in 1913
- Moved to current location 1966
- Multiple add ons, latest being the “Western Expansion” in 2008 for OR, ICU and Med Surg
- ICU closure in February 2022



# Why did SV respond?

- A lot of connections in this community:
  - SV Manhattan operations
  - Established relationship with Fort Riley
  - Former CEO was connected to Geary Community
- Review of opportunity and community needs
- Mission is to provide quality care close to home

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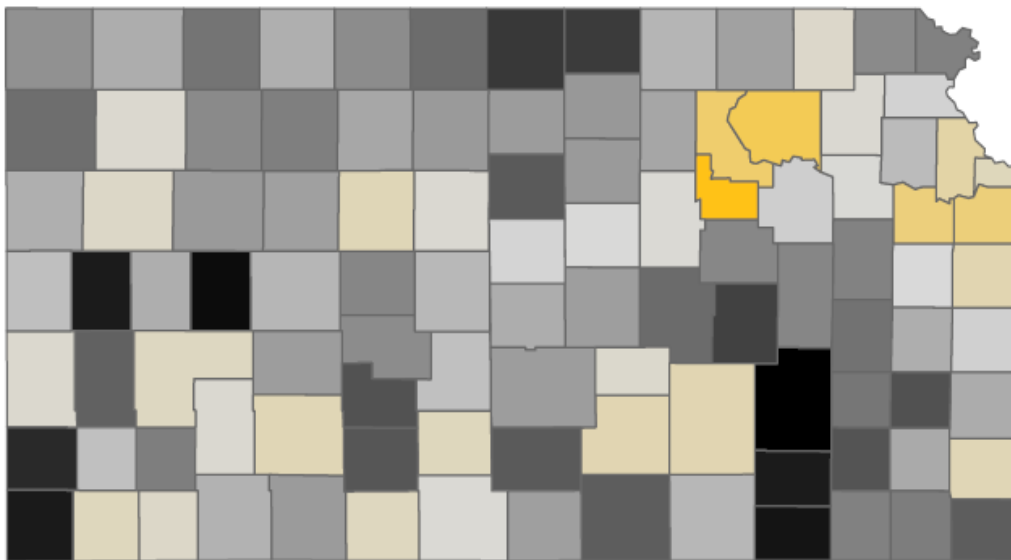
# Rural Demonstration Hospital



Source: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



# Geary County Population Growth Forecast - 2040



Total Growth  
-120.4%  212.3%

Source: CEDBR



e:

2020 2025 2030 2035 2040 2045 2050 2055 2060 2065 2070



# Flint Hill Operations

## Acute Care:

Emergency Department: 10 beds

Med Surg = 27 Beds

Swing Bed & Pediatric beds available

OB= 7 beds

Operating Room, Endoscopy and Infusion

## Rural Health

Similar to our clinics

Family Practice & Internal Med

OB/GYN

General Surgery

# Care through a different format

## CARDIOVASCULAR SERVICES

Call (785) 270-4100 or Fax (785) 270-4105

James Birkbeck, M.D.

Call (785) 537-2651 or Fax (785) 565-2829

Gilbert Katz, M.D.

Brett Dawes, APRN

Tiffany Naccarato, APRN

## GENERAL SURGERY

Call (785) 580-0369 or Fax (785) 354-0519

Wael Khreiss, M.D.

## ENDOCRINOLOGY

Call (785) 368-0445 or Fax (785) 354-0591

Dana Awad, M.D.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Call (785) 354-9591 or Fax (785) 354-0523

Clifton Jones, M.D.

Barbara Hart, APRN

## MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE

Call (785) 354-5952 or Fax (785) 354-5984

Pamela Grant, M.D.

Laura Hughes, M.D.

## NEPHROLOGY

Call (785) 354-9591 or Fax (785) 368-0478

Thomas Alderson, M.D.

## PAIN MANAGEMENT

Call (785) 270-0070 or Fax (785) 270-0071

Ian Kucera, M.D.

# Inpatient Care Telemedicine



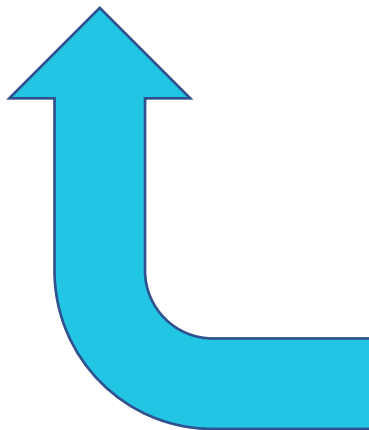
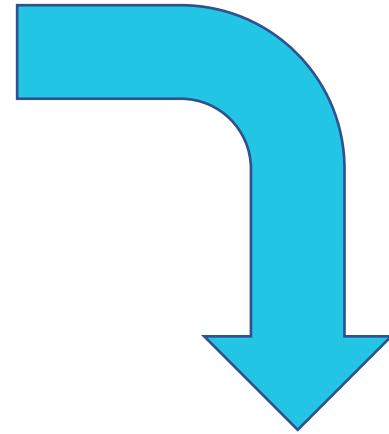
# Nursing Staff



# Other areas SV has supported

- EMS contract
- General Surgeon hired
- Expansion of OB/GYN practice
- New equipment: Imaging department
  - Allows us to keep patients in JC and close to home

# New Model of Care



Thank you!