

Guadalupe Regional

MEDICAL CENTER



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

**Michelle Rumbaut,
Chief Operating Officer,
830/401-7202**

Or

**Dorothy Wiley, Director PR,
830/401-7418, 830/481-4353**

“Building. For Life.” Guadalupe Regional Medical Center Holds Groundbreaking for \$100 Million Expansion

(Seguin, Texas – March 26, 2008) -- Guadalupe Regional Medical Center (GRMC) held a public ceremonial groundbreaking today, Wednesday, March 26, from 4:00 – 4:45, for its \$100 million expansion and renovation project. The ceremony took place in front of the hospital’s Teaching Center, at 1331 East Court, just east of the Medical Center. The ceremonies included several elected officials, including U.S. Representative Henry Cuellar, State Senator Jeff Wentworth, State Representative Edmund Kuempel, and Seguin’s Mayor Betty Ann Matthies. In addition, County elected officials and members of the medical staff were in attendance. “This historic event celebrates GRMC’s continued commitment to providing healthcare excellence,” said GRMC Chief Executive Officer Robert Haynes.

Guadalupe Regional plans to renovate and expand its existing facilities into an ultramodern health care complex. When GRMC's expansion plans are finished, the hospital will more than double in size, augment its technological sophistication, and have a sleek, contemporary new appearance. The \$100 million dollar expansion and renovation project will increase GRMC's square footage to 260,000 and expand the hospital's health care services. A three-story Inpatient Tower, to be located on the current front hospital parking lot on the west side of the campus, will provide completely new Maternity Services and Medical floors, as well as a future inpatient unit. "The project will provide a first-rate facility for the seven county region served by the Medical Center and allow the hospital to meet the area's anticipated future needs for health care services," explains Haynes.

In addition, a multi-story Outpatient Services Center, on top of what is now Leonard Lane, will tremendously expand the Medical Center's campus and connect the main building to the current Teaching Center and Wellness Center buildings. The plans also include a new Emergency Department with more convenient access from Court Street. The expansion will increase:

- ER beds from nine to 25;
- inpatient acute beds from 98 to 117, with potential for up to 154;
- state-of-the-art operating suites from four to six;
- maternity labor rooms from three to seven , and two separate c-section operating suites.

The three-year project, slated to conclude mid-2010, will encompass 141,000 square feet of new construction, major remodeling of 65,000 square feet, and technological upgrades. The Medical Center's expansion qualified for financing through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is insured through the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). Architects for the project are Perkins + Will, a large international design firm. Contractor services are provided by Bovis Lend Lease. Also, I.C. Thomasson Associates are the project engineers and The Koehler Company has been contracted for the pharmacy expansion phase and for all cabinetry in the expansion.

Guadalupe Regional Medical Center, located in Seguin, contributes \$32 million per year to the local economy in salaries and benefits and with 700 employees is the fifth largest employer in Guadalupe County. More than 60 local physicians, practicing in 25 specialties, are actively affiliated with the Medical Center. GRMC provides comprehensive health care services for the residents of Guadalupe, Caldwell, Comal, Gonzales, Hays, Karnes, and Wilson counties. Having earned the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™, Guadalupe Regional Medical Center is fully accredited. Jointly owned by the City of Seguin and Guadalupe County, GRMC is a not for profit community hospital. By providing state-of-the-art surgery and endoscopy facilities, breakthrough imaging technology, and expert clinical support, GRMC partners with physicians to provide superior health care that is available locally. GRMC is one of 49 hospitals, out of 581 licensed hospitals in Texas, to achieve the prestigious Nurse-Friendly™ distinction awarded by the Texas Nurses Association. This award demonstrates a high level of commitment by GRMC's nursing team to quality patient care and to patient satisfaction. Last year, the hospital admitted 5,500 patients, handled 26,000 Emergency Department visits, 700 births, and performed 3,500 surgeries.



GRMC's expansion will boost the Medical Center's square footage to 260,000 and includes six surgical suites. Acute care and expanded Maternity Services will be located in the new Inpatient Tower, shown above, providing all private rooms, public dining, and a visitors' area that includes a meditation garden.



Guadalupe Regional's new multi-story Outpatient Services Center, shown at center, will offer a broad range of services including medical imaging, wound care, laboratory services, endoscopy, and outpatient surgery. The spacious Emergency Department, shown on right of above rendering, will provide 25 private beds.



GRMC's expansion project will connect the hospital's Wellness Center and Teaching Center (left) with the main campus of the Medical Center, eliminating what is now Leonard Lane, the street that runs between the current Teaching Center and ER.

Sidebar: GRMC Begins "Hardwiring Excellence" Initiative

GRMC is not only undertaking a \$100 million expansion in an effort to provide outstanding medical facilities, they also embarking on a widespread "Hardwiring Excellence" initiative to reinforce the hospital's culture of excellence. "These two efforts are occurring simultaneously for a reason," explains CEO Robert Haynes, "as we build the future of healthcare in our region, we must also set the bar for clinical and service excellence. As construction progresses, the design and creation of new beautiful buildings will be readily apparent to our community. The design and ongoing development of a culture of clinical and service excellence will be less perceptible, but even more vital to our future. With this initiative, excellence becomes deeply entrenched in our day to day behaviors." The hospital's new "Code of Excellence," aligns behaviors with values and goals and creates accountability because employees understand how to measure excellence to ensure both patient and employee satisfaction. The initiative is already well underway, and includes ongoing training of every employee. Employees will sign an agreement that signifies their understanding and participation. Employees will also rotate onto service

teams that focus on communication, patient satisfaction, employee recognition, physician satisfaction, and measurement, among others. “This is all about delivering excellence for our patients,” Haynes said.