

# Oakes Community Hospital Receives \$493,171 Grant for Mammography Services

Patients of Oakes Community Hospital will benefit from new, state-of-the-art mammography equipment, which is possible through a grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust has awarded Oakes Community Hospital \$493,171 to upgrade its mammography services. The grant will be used to purchase a state-of-the-art digital mammography unit.

“This is an incredible gift for our organization and the people we serve,” said Lee Boyles, administrator. “This means patients can get the best cancer detection possible without leaving the region.”

The hospital will change its mammography services from a mobile diagnostic unit to a fixed unit that includes digital mammography equipment. Digital mammography produces clearer imagery, which means abnormalities or cancer in the breast may be detected sooner.

“Breast cancer has become the most common non-skin cancer and is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the nation,” said Kathryn Cooper, acute care nurse practitioner. The digital technology will ensure that our patients are receiving the highest level of diagnostic services available for early detection and treatment.”

The Rural Healthcare Program of The Helmsley Charitable Trust began awarding grants in 2009. In the last two years, The Trust has awarded more than \$84 million in grants to nonprofit organizations in the region.

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, established in 1999, supports a diverse range of organizations with a major focus on health and medical research, human services, education and conservation. To date, The Trust has announced more than \$400 million in grants to charitable organizations.

Oakes Community Hospital (OCH) is a nonprofit, faith-based hospital whose mission is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church by bringing it new life, energy and viability in the 21st century. OCH is a 20-bed critical access hospital serving approximately 14,000 people in southeast North Dakota. The hospital is part of a larger values-based organization, Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI). With more than 100 employees and two primary care clinics, OCH seeks to provide community benefits to our residents by identifying community health needs particularly for vulnerable and underserved populations. As a provider of community-based, family-oriented healthcare, OCH provides friendly professional patient-centered care in a hometown atmosphere.

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## Oakes Community Hospital

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