BOTHWELL TO TRANSITION HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE SERVICES

Bothwell Regional Health Center officials have announced that by the end of the month, its home health and hospice services will transition to other providers in the community.

According to President and CEO John Dawes and Chief Nursing Officer Ginny Crow, Bothwell Home Health & Hospice will transition its hospice services to selected partner Crossroads Hospice. Home health services will transition to Oxford HealthCare, which has partnered with other Missouri hospitals, such as MU Health.

“After carefully analyzing these services and the changing landscape of health-care delivery, we have decided it would be best to transition these services to other providers,” Dawes said. “The market for these services is very competitive, and our competitors are multi-state organizations that specialize in their respective business. Because of the scope and centralization of their operations, they are able to achieve efficiencies and afford technologies that are not within our means.”

These technologies include Oxford HealthCare’s home telemonitoring, which records patient data such as weight, blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen levels on in-home equipment. Within minutes, the readings are transmitted through phones lines to clinicians for a complete review. The technology enables clinicians to adjust services to a patient’s changing needs, managing them more efficiently, improving their care, and often decreasing emergency room visits.

Dawes also noted that reimbursement models for in-home care also are changing.

“Home health and hospice are high-cost services because they are provided in the patient’s home, and are very labor-intensive,” he said. “Yet, these services are often on the lower end of the scale when it comes to Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements. Making this transition now is fiscally prudent and would actually provide the community with a higher level of service.”

Bothwell Home Health & Hospice has 16 home health employees and eight hospice employees, who informed of the change on Monday, Oct. 6, and were able to meet with representatives of both companies later that afternoon to discuss employee opportunities.
Bothwell Home Health & Hospice will stop accepting new patients into these services beginning Oct. 13, and plan to have all patients discharged by Oct. 27. Patients have a choice in selecting other providers for these services. Bothwell will continue to operate Bothwell Medical Equipment Services, currently located at 501 East 17th.

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Crossroads Hospice
Crossroads Hospice is committed to being at the forefront of the hospice care industry, to continually shape the way end-of-life care is viewed and administered. The mission of Crossroads Hospice is to provide highly unique, comprehensive, and compassionate hospice services to persons experiencing a life-limiting illness and to their caregivers. Visit www.crossroadshospice.com for more information.

“The Crossroads Hospice team is both delighted and honored to be selected by Bothwell as the end-of-life care provider for the Sedalia community,” said Janet Hessenflow, executive director, Crossroads Hospice in Kansas City. “We have been providing hospice services in this community for the past five years and are prepared to bring our philosophy of ‘doing more’ to a broader group of patients and families.”

Oxford HealthCare
Oxford HealthCare has been bringing health care home since 1974 with innovative services, cutting-edge technology and compassionate care. Oxford HealthCare offers patient services such as home health, hospice, home telemonitoring, Lifeline Personal Response System, IV therapy, private duty and Medicaid waiver services. The parent office for Oxford HealthCare is located in Springfield, with additional offices in Joplin, West Plains and Columbia.