



Critical Access Hospital Profile

Spotlight on: Wishek, North Dakota

South Central Health

Quick Facts

Administrator:
Beverly Vilhauer

Chief of Medical Staff:
Dr. Donald Koslab Jr

Board President:
Harry Hagel

City Population:
949 (2019 estimate)¹

County Population:
2,801 (2019 estimate)¹

County Median Household Income:
\$52,587 (2019 estimate)¹

County Median Age:
53.2 years (2019 estimate)¹

Service Area Population:
9,217 (3 county area)

Owned by: Community

Hospital Beds: 24

Trauma Level: V

Critical Access Hospital Designation: 2001

Economic Impact on the County²

Employment:
Primary – 89
Secondary – 38
Total – 127

Financial Impact:
Primary – \$4.5 million
Secondary – \$1.1 million
Total – \$5.6 million

Mission

South Central Health (SCH) provides quality healthcare service with concern and compassion in a cost-effective manner. SCH will distinguish itself as a leader in the provision of quality healthcare services in South Central North Dakota.

County: McIntosh
Address: 1007 4th Avenue South, PO Box 647
 Wishek, ND 58495
Phone: 701.452.2326
Fax: 701.452.2392
Web: <https://shealthnd.com/>

Since 1954, SCH has proven itself to be a healthcare leader in South Central North Dakota. Founded from a recognized need to provide medical services for residents of the area, SCH has grown to be a 24-bed critical access hospital with three full-time clinic locations in Wishek, Napoleon, and Kulm, and a satellite clinic in Gackle. We are community-owned, and our employees have a greater dedication to your well-being because they live, work and play right here.

Our patients are our families, friends and neighbors, and our slogan, “*Quality Care with Concern and Compassion*” has always been driven by the notion that they will be treated with the utmost respect and privacy.

Services: SCH provides the following services directly:

- Allergy, flu & pneumonia shots
- Ambulance Services
- Blood and Blood Product Administration
- Blood pressure checks
- Cardiology (visiting physician)
- Chronic disease management
- Clinic- Napoleon, Wishek, Gackle, Kulm
- Emergency room
- Gynecology/Obstetrics (visiting physician)
- Holter monitoring
- Hospital (observation, acute, swingbed)
- Laboratory services
- Mole/wart/skin lesion removal
- Nutrition counseling (visiting dietician)
- Outpatient Injections/Infusions/ Dressing changes
- Pharmacy (for hospitalized patients)
- Podiatry – visiting physician
- Physicals: annuals, D.O.T., sports & insurance
- Physical therapy
- Radiology services (CT scan, EKG, General x-ray,
- Radiology services via mobile units (Mammograms, Digital mammography, Echocardiograms, Nuclear medicine, MRI, Ultrasound)
- Sleep studies
- Social services
- Sports medicine
- Surgical services—Colonoscopy/EDG (visiting physicians)

Staffing

Physicians:	0
Nurse Practitioners:	3
PAs:	2
RNs:	15
LPNs:	7
Total Employees:	92

Local Sponsors and Grant Funding Sources

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota
- Center for Rural Health
 - SHIP Grant (*Small Hospital Improvement Program*)
 - Flex Grant (*Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program*)

Sources

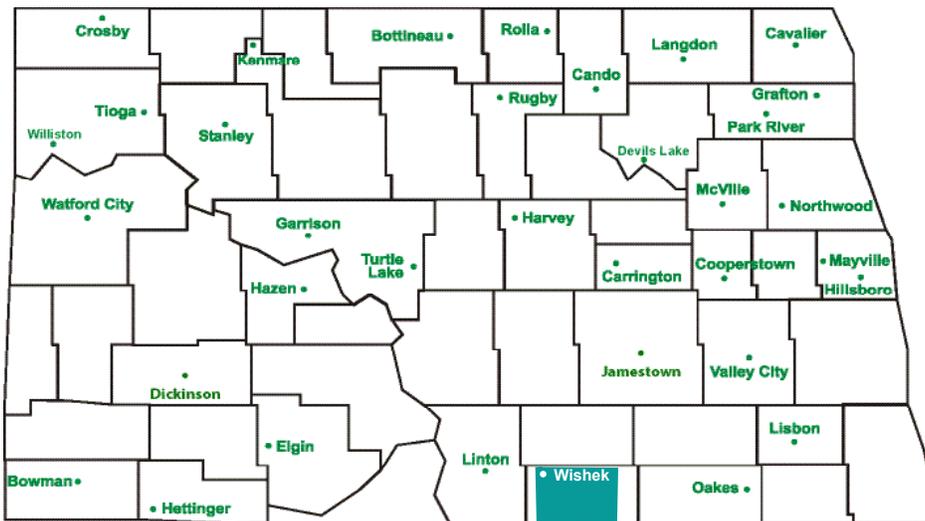
- ¹ - US Census Bureau; American Factfinder, Community Facts
- ² - Economic Impact 2020 Center for Rural Health Oklahoma State University and Center for Rural Health University of North Dakota



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ruralhealth.und.edu

North Dakota Critical Access Hospitals



History

SCH was dedicated in 1954. The original facility accommodated 16 patients in eight double rooms and employed twelve people. The formed an association with Lutheran Hospitals and Homes Society (LHS), giving the Fargo-based healthcare organization operational control of the Wishek hospital for over 40 years.

In 1964, a new hospital wing was dedicated to meet the expanding healthcare needs, adding 11 beds and more services. Yet another dedication was held in 1977 when the clinic opened its doors. A major renovation project designed to improve the hospital facility and to install a new x-ray machine was celebrated on May 8, 1988.

Between 1993 and 1995, SCH reached formal agreements to manage the clinics in Wishek, Napoleon, Fredonia, Lehr, Zeeland, Streeter, Kulm, and Gackle. Population declines over the years forced the closure of the satellite clinics in Fredonia, Lehr, Zeeland, and Streeter in 2006. New equipment for mammography, cardiac testing, computerized tomography (CT), anesthesia and blood analyzing were installed in 1994 and 1995. The Home Health Agency and social work were added to expand the variety of services offered.

The facility terminated its contract with LHS in 1998, electing instead to put control of the institution in the hands of its board and administration.

To provide more space for local and visiting specialists, it became necessary to expand the Wishek Clinic. The Clinic addition was dedicated April 19, 2002.

Today, SCH has 92 employees and manages four clinic locations. It maintains sound relationships with a number of visiting specialists. WCHC is proud of the quality and range of medical treatment and procedures it offers to meet the area's healthcare needs.

Recreation

Wishek is in south central North Dakota. The economic base of this area is primarily dependent upon agriculture. Wishek's school system provides educational opportunities to students K-12. Recreational facilities include an auto racetrack, bowling alley, movie theatre, baseball diamonds, swimming pool, tennis courts, a golf course, a city park and two state parks within ten miles. There is an abundance of hunting, fishing and outdoor recreational opportunities.