



Critical Access Hospital Profile

Spotlight on: Williston, North Dakota

CHI St Alexius Health Williston Medical Center

Quick Facts

Administrator:

Dan Bjerknæs

Chief of Medical Staff:

Ashley Lemere, MD

City Population:

29,033 (2019 Estimate)¹

County Population:

37,589 (2019 Estimate)¹

County Median Household Income:

\$87,161 (2019 Estimate)¹

County Median Age:

31.5 (2019 Estimate)¹

Service Area Population:

50,000

Owned by: CommonSpirit Health (Non-profit)**Hospital Beds:** 25**Trauma Level:** IV**Critical Access Hospital Designation:** 2008**Economic Impact on the Community²****Employment:**

Primary Impact— 354
Secondary Impact—156
Total Impact – 510

Financial Impact:

Primary – \$32.5 Million
Secondary – \$7 Million
Total - \$39.5 Million

Mission

As Common Spirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

County: Williams

Address: 1301 15th Avenue West
Williston, ND 58801

Phone: (701) 774-7400

Toll Free: (800) 544-3579

Web: <https://www.chistalexiushealth.org/williston>

Vision

A healthier future for all-inspired by faith, driven by innovation, and powered by our humanity.

Core Values

Compassion

- Care with listening, empathy and love.
- Accompany and comfort those in need of healing.

Inclusion

- Celebrate each person’s gifts and voice.
- Respect the dignity of all.

Integrity

- Inspire trust through honesty.
- Demonstrate courage in the face of inequity.

Excellence

- Serve with fullest passion, creativity, and stewardship.
- Exceed expectations of others and ourselves.

Collaboration

- Commit to the power of working together.
- Build and nurture meaningful relationships.

Services

- Acne treatment
- Allergy, flu and pneumonia shots
- Anesthesiology
- Blood pressure checks
- Cancer treatment
- Cardiology
- Cardiac rehab
- Clinic
- Emergency room
- Gynecology
- Hemodialysis
- Home health/hospice
- Hospital (acute care)
- Interventional Pain management
- Mole/wart/skin lesion removal
- Nutrition counseling
- Obstetrics
- Oncology (visiting specialist)
- Orthopedics
- Nephrology (visiting specialist)
- Neurology
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Podiatry
- Prenatal care
- Physicals: annuals, D.O.T., sports and insurance
- Pulmonary Rehab
- Sports medicine
- Surgical services—biopsies, inpatient, outpatient
- Screening/therapy services
- Radiology services
- Laboratory services

Staffing

Physicians: 22
Nurse Practitioners: 11
Physician Assistants: 2
RNs: 130
LPNs: 19
Total Employees: 419

Local Sponsors and Grant Funding Sources

- Center for Rural Health - SHIP Grant (Small Hospital Improvement Program)
- American Heart Association Stroke Grant
- North Dakota State Stroke Registry Grant
- North Dakota Critical Access Hospital 1358 Grant

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

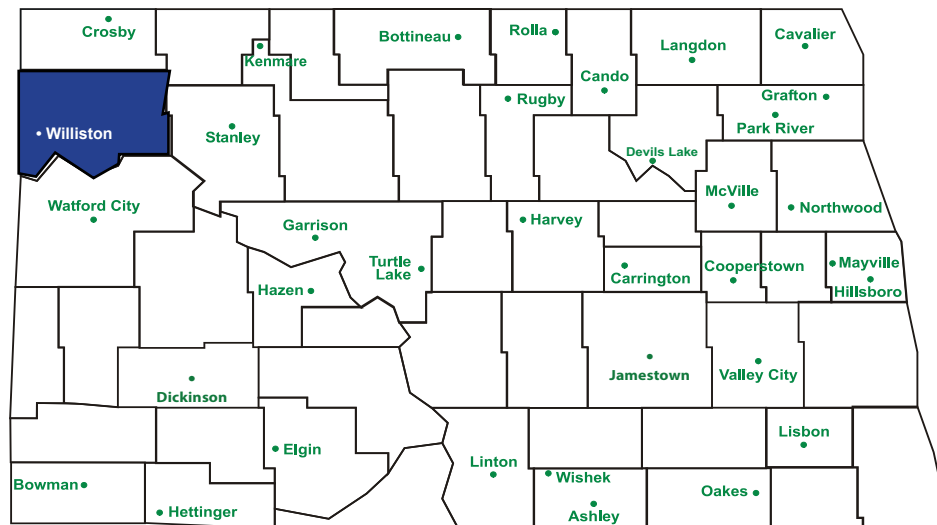
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ruralhealth.und.edu

North Dakota Critical Access Hospitals



History

The 1918 Flu Pandemic overwhelmed local healthcare resources and underscored the need for a community hospital. Dr. E.J. Hagan, Sr. and Fr. E.P. O'Neil, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, and Mr. W.S. Davidson, Sr., a local banker were already dreaming and praying about creating a hospital with dedicated staff and consistent services. By 1920, they had persuaded many of Williston's citizens of this need.

The Sisters of Mercy agreed to the plan and four of their number travelled from Devils Lake to organize the ministry in Williston. On September 12, 1920, four Sisters of Mercy: Sr. Mary Camillus O'Brien (the Superior), and Sisters Mary Matilda Lansing, Patricia Gorman, and Aloysius Fitzpatrick arrived by train to start their new adventure. The community secured the La Due Court apartment building recently completed in 1917. The Sisters assumed the remainder of the debt and remodeled the building to make it practical as a hospital. The sisters purchased equipment, added an elevator, quickly allowing the twenty-bed Mercy Hospital to open on October 16, 1920!

By 1923, a formal Nursing School began; and in 1929, a wing was added to the hospital, which provided an additional thirty beds. In 1953, a four story modern building was adjoined to the existing structure to stretch the overworked hospital's capacity to 86 beds. The ministry matured and grew at the original downtown location until 1973. By that time, Williston was again at a crossroads, needing more hospital capacity, more technology, more staff, and in general one new modern hospital.

The present facility opened in 1974 and by 1985, with subsequent renovations and additions, became a 150-bed hospital.

Changes in healthcare utilization and reimbursement prompted fewer patient admissions and shorter stays, this, coupled with a shortage of staff, encouraged MMC's board to seek Critical Access Hospital designation in 2008. Though a Critical Access Hospital, the medical center enjoys a very complete menu of outpatient services, providing a variety of services usually only available in much larger cities. In 2016, Mercy Medical Center became St Alexius Health Williston Medical Center, and in 2018, Catholic Health Initiatives merged with Dignity Health to form CommonSpirit Health.

Recreation/Other

Williston offers some of the most diverse hunting and fishing opportunities in the state. From upland game birds, and turkeys to waterfowl, and antelope to moose, one can find a variety of reasons to be in the countryside in the fall. Year-round, one can also find a number of lakes and rivers, and reservoirs nearby to fish for northern pike, walleye, sauger, perch, bass, catfish, trout, and even paddlefish—as well as a number of other species that are fun to catch, but rarely taken home.

Williston is also home to the largest recreation center in the state. The Williston ARC is a 250,000 square foot Community Center that contains a variety of sports venues all under one roof: tennis courts, golf simulator, soccer field, racquetball courts, swimming pools, water park, basketball courts, running tracks, weight rooms, and a variety of classrooms and public meeting spaces—including a huge child care center (with play area).

Williston has numerous parks, loads of softball and baseball fields, two golf courses, several shooting ranges, and two indoor hockey arenas, and a curling facility, too.