



# Critical Access Hospital Profile

## Spotlight on: Valley City, North Dakota

# Mercy Hospital

### Quick Facts

**Administrator:**  
Keith Heuser, CEO

**Chief of Medical Staff:**  
James Buhr, M.D.

**Board Chair:** Steve Jorrissen

**City Population:**  
6,300 (2007 Estimate)

**County Population:**  
10,682 (2008 Estimate)

**County Median Household Income:**  
\$39,387 (2007 Estimate)

**County Median Age:**  
40.6 (2000 Estimate)

**Service Area Population:**  
15,000 (25 mile radius)

**Owned by:** Catholic Health Initiatives (Nonprofit)

**Hospital Beds:** 25

**Trauma Level:** IV

**Critical Access Hospital Designation:** 2002

**Economic Impact on the County\***

**Employment Impact:**  
Primary – 156  
Secondary – 69  
Total – 225

**Financial Impact:**  
Primary – \$6.8 Million  
Total – \$8.4 Million

### Mission:

The mission of Mercy Hospital of Valley City and Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church by bringing it new life, energy and viability in the 21st century. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we move toward the creation of healthier communities.

### Core Values:

Reverence, Integrity, Compassion, Excellence. These four values, like the four points on a compass, guide us in our mission and ministry, and it is through these four values that we strive to achieve excellence in service.

**County:** Barnes  
**Address:** 570 Chautauqua Blvd  
 Valley City, ND 58072  
**Phone:** (701) 845-6400  
**Fax:** (701) 845-6413  
**Web:** www.mercyhospital.biz

Mercy Hospital is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital. Services include medical, surgical (both inpatient and outpatient), swingbed, physical therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehab, home health, respiratory care, laboratory, ambulatory care, emergency department and a radiology department which features a CT unit and the services of a mobile MRI. Other services available at Mercy Hospital include outpatient clinics in podiatry and orthopedics through cooperating providers.

### Services:

Mercy Hospital provides the following services directly through the hospital:

- Acute Care
- Cardiac Rehab
- Cataract Surgery
- CT Scanning
- Education
- Emergency Room
- Faith in Action
- General Surgery
- Home Health
- Lab
- Nutrition
- Childbirth Preparation Classes
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Radiology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Respite Care
- Same Day Surgery
- Sleep Studies
- Social Services
- Special Care Services
- Spiritual Services
- Sports Medicine
- Stress Testing
- Swing Bed Program

### Other Services

- Counseling Services
- Hospice Services
- Mammography
- Orthopaedic Clinic
- Podiatry Clinic
- Healthy Heart Program

*\* Employment and financial impacts were estimated using economic multipliers derived from MIG 2007 IMPLAN data.*

## Staffing

PAs: ..... 3  
RNs: ..... 38  
LPNs: ..... 4  
Total Employees: ..... 156

## Local Sponsors and Grant Funding Sources

- Center for Rural Health
  - SHIP Grant (Small Hospital Improvement Program)
  - Flex Grant (Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program)
- Dakota Medical Foundation/  
Dakota Medical Charities
- North Dakota Community Foundation

## Sources

2007 City Population, U.S. Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau. Annual estimates (Table 4) (July 2008)

2008 County Population and 2007 County Median Household income  
US Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts.

2000 County Median Age.  
North Dakota State Data Center. "The population Bulletin" Vol. 17 No. 6 June 2001.



Center for Rural Health

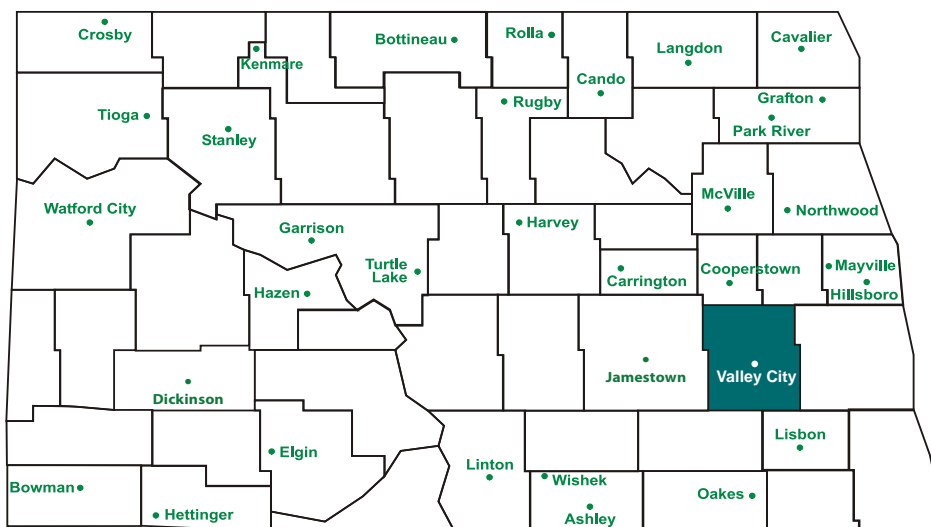
This project is supported by the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program at the Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences located in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

<http://ruralhealth.und.edu>

Mercy Hospital provides the following services through contract or agreement:

- MRI
- Nuclear Medicine
- Speech Therapy

## North Dakota Critical Access Hospitals



## History:

In 1926, a local Catholic priest, at the encouragement of community representatives, invited the Sisters of Mercy to come to Valley City and build and staff a hospital. After much prayer and planning, the Sisters of Mercy sent five Sisters to Valley City and the construction began on the hospital and on a nursing school for student nurses. The Sisters of Mercy and the community of Valley City took a leap of faith to establish a 5-story Spanish-style institution, which at that time was state-of-the-art. On May 15, 1928, Mercy Hospital first opened its doors to the public.

In 1952, the current 5-story north wing of the hospital was added to the building and in 1974 the original building was replaced with a 3-story addition to the 1952 wing.

In 1980, the Sisters of Mercy turned the management of Mercy Hospital over to the newly formed Catholic Health Corporation (CHC) headquartered in Omaha, NE. CHC managed the hospital until 1995, when the Sisters of Mercy signed a letter of intent to consolidate and be one of the founding members of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI). Catholic Health Initiatives is now one of the largest Catholic health systems in the United States, and is continuing the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy through its core values.

## Recreation:

Valley City is in southeastern North Dakota and is primarily dependent on agriculture and agri-business. The school system includes both public and parochial schools as well as a specialized curriculum for educable mentally handicapped children. Approximately 1,100 students attend Valley City State University, a state-funded liberal arts college. Excellent recreational opportunities include camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, hunting, ice fishing, snowmobiling and cross country skiing. Valley City is just an hour away from Fargo, North Dakota's largest city.