Critical Access Hospital Profile
Spotlight on: Garrison, North Dakota

CHI St. Alexius Health - Garrison

Quick Facts

**Administrator:** Tod Graeber, CEO

**Chief of Medical Staff:** Dr. Vern Harchenko

**Board Chair:** John Giese

**City Population:** 1,414 (2014 Estimate)

**County Population:** 9,299 (2014 Estimate)

**County Median Household Income:** $53,778 (2014 Estimate)

**County Median Age:** 48.3 years

**Service Area Population:** 3,500

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

**Hospital Beds:** 22

**Skilled Nursing Facility Beds:** 28

**Trauma Level:** V

**Critical Access Hospital Designation:** 1999

**Economic Impact on the County**

**Employment:**
- Primary – 155
- Secondary – 78
- Total – 233

**Financial Impact:**
- Primary – $6.2 million
- Secondary – $3.1 million
- Total – $9.3 million

*The impact of jobs and expenditures generated by the hospital within the community was estimated using payroll information and an economic multiplier of 1.5.*

Mission

The Mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we create healthier communities.

Core Values

- Reverence: Profound respect and awe for all of creation, the foundation that shapes spirituality, our relationships with others and our journey to God.
- Integrity: Moral wholeness, soundness, fidelity, trust, truthfulness in all we do.
- Compassion: Solidarity with one another, capacity to enter into another’s joy and sorrow.
- Excellence: Preeminent performance, becoming the benchmark, putting forth our personal and professional best.

**County:** McLean

**Address:**
- 407 3rd Avenue SE
- Garrison, ND 58540

**Phone:** 701.463.2275
**Fax:** 701.463.6569

**Web:** www.garrisonmh.com

Garrison Memorial Hospital (GMH) is a non-profit hospital located in Garrison, ND. GMH is part of CHI St. Alexius Health, sharing the same board of directors. We have 22 acute/swing beds on our second floor, 28 nursing facility beds on our third floor, and the Garrison Family Clinic (a Rural Health Clinic) is connected to the facility on the first floor.

Services

Garrison Memorial Hospital provides the following services directly:

- Physical Therapy
- Swing Bed
- Respite Care
- Acute Care
- Emergency Care (Level V Trauma Certified)
- Observation Care
- Adult Day Care
- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Avera eEmergency Site
- Radiology Services: Digital Mammography, CT Scans (in house), EKG, Bone Densitometry (DEXA scan)
- Cardiac Rehab
- 24 Hour Emergency Services
- Garrison Family Clinic
- Laboratory services
- IV Therapy
- Telemedicine

Garrison Memorial Hospital provides the following services through contract or agreement:

- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- MRI
- Hearing Services
- Ultra Sound
- Nuclear Medicine
Staffing

Physicians: 1
PAs: 2
FNP: 2
RNs: 26
LPNs: 14
Total Employees: 155

Local Sponsors and Grant Funding Sources

- Center for Rural Health
  - SHIP Grant (Small Hospital Improvement Program)
  - Flex Grant (Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program)
- Leona Helmsley Grant

Sources

1 US Census Bureau; American Factfinder; Community Facts

North Dakota Critical Access Hospitals

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.

ruralhealth.und.edu

History

Construction of the hospital began on October 20, 1949 and the 40 bed facility opened its doors in February 1952, admitting its first patient on February 14.

Since that time, Garrison Memorial Hospital has seen numerous changes. In April of 1967, the convent and chapel with living quarters for the sisters were added to the hospital. January, 1974 saw the third floor of the hospital converted to an intermediate care facility housing 24 beds. An administrative addition was added in October of 1976 which was later remodeled. Garrison Hospital assumed management of the Garrison Family Clinic (formerly Medical Arts Clinic) which was designated a Rural Health Clinic in November of 1992. Garrison Memorial Hospital became a part of St. Alexius Medical Center in late 1996 after the Garrison Hospital Board voted to transfer all assets to St. Alexius. This transfer allowed St. Alexius to make capital improvements to Garrison Memorial Hospital. A two million dollar remodeling project to make the facility ADA compliant, as well as add a new emergency entrance was finished in 2001. The hospital applied and was approved for Critical Access Designation in December of 1999. In October 2014, St. Alexius and Garrison Memorial Hospital merged with Catholic Health Initiatives.

The staff and management of the Garrison Memorial Hospital remains dedicated to providing Garrison and the surrounding rural communities with access to quality health care. The community’s health needs are our first priority.

Recreation

Garrison is in west central North Dakota. The Garrison Public Schools operate in relatively new, completely up-to-date and well-equipped buildings with playgrounds, tennis courts and athletic fields. The program includes college preparation, vocational courses, music and others. In addition to a number of city parks and a nine-hole golf course, Fort Stevenson State Park is located three miles south of Garrison. Nearby Lake Sakakawea, the “Walleye Capital of the World,” offers boating, fishing, swimming, water-skiing, camping and scuba diving. Garrison hosts an annual Dickens Village Festival for three weekends in December each year. The area also offers excellent hunting and cross-country skiing. Good, four-lane highway access to Minot or Bismarck, 45 and 70 miles respectively, offers shopping and entertainment of a larger city.

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