



Key Messages

- **Jennings American Legion Hospital (JALH) and Lafayette General Health (LGH)** have signed a letter of intent (LOI) to explore a merger, whereby LGH will assume management and operations of JALH. Under the proposed structure, LGH will enter into a multi-year lease of the hospital, its clinics, physical plant and equipment with the American Legion Post.
- **Nothing changes today.** This is the first step in a long process and JALH will continue to operate as it does today.
- **JALH is a strong, healthy hospital,** but healthcare is complex and rapidly changing, and we need a partner that can help us thrive into the future and meet the evolving needs of our community and to ensure access to local, quality care for generations to come.
- **Given the significant headwinds in the healthcare industry,** smart health systems across the country are coming together to protect their mission and thrive well into the future.
- **Like LGH, JALH is a not-for-profit hospital.** The two organizations have the shared mission of bringing health and healing to the communities they serve.



Our Goal

- **This long-term lease agreement** seeks to expand on the clinical affiliation JALH and LGH began in 2016. It has enhanced economies of scale, sharing of best practices and clinical protocol alignment. This deeper partnership continues on our commitment to keep quality healthcare local and close to home.
- **We want to work together** to make JALH an even stronger community hospital by growing existing services and adding new ones.
- **As LGH partnerships with other hospitals in Acadiana,** the goal is always to keep healthcare local and close to home.



Commitment to Employees

- **Once the agreement is finalized,** LGH will assume the entirety of JALH's trained and assembled workforce as LGH employees, at comparable titles and pay scales.
- **JALH employees will be rolled into LGH's benefit plans** and be credited for years of service for purposes of benefit accruals, once the transaction has been completed.
- **Our culture is one of transparency,** and we commit to keeping employees informed during the process. As such, we have developed FAQs for employees, and these will be updated with relevant topics on an ongoing basis.
- **Know that LGH will continue to build on the success of JALH as together we form a winning team!** LGMC ranked #17 in Top 100 Consumer Loyalty by NRC Health in 2018. Lafayette General Health has been named "Most Wired" by CHIME Healthcare's Most Wired every year since 2012. And for the last four years, LGH entities have been named among Modern Healthcare's Best Places to Work.



Commitment to the Community

- **Lafayette General Health is committed to developing JALH** and providing top healthcare to the residents of Jefferson Davis Parish. That commitment is unwavering, and LGH has done this successfully with other local, community hospitals.
- **Nearly 70 years ago, the American Legion Post 19 established a hospital to meet the needs of its community.** They built a terrific foundation for us to build upon. It is our intention to successfully integrate Jennings American Legion Hospital into the Lafayette General Health System while at the same time maintaining its rich legacy.



Investments in the Facilities

.....

- **LGH anticipates a \$6 million investment** in technology, infrastructure upgrades and integration as well as physician placement and recruitment. Additional investments for facility upgrades and capital planning are also in development as the two entities work toward a final agreement. This investment shows the significant level of commitment by LGH.



What About the Recent LGH/Ochsner Announcement

.....

- **On September 25, Lafayette General Health announced it had signed an LOI to merge with Ochsner Health System.** The long-term lease agreement between LGH and JALH would make JALH a subsidiary of LGH. The Ochsner merger calls for a \$365 million investment over 10 years and provides significant expansion of clinical services throughout all LGH facilities, of which JALH would be a part.
- **The structure of the OHS/LGH merger** will have LGH remaining as a separate company of OHS and will continue to operate as usual in the Acadiana and surrounding markets.
- **This merger will be positive for JALH** in that the stability and financial security of the combined systems will be increased significantly.



What Happens Next?

.....

- **Both LGH and JALH will bring in 3rd party consultants** to develop the structure and specifics of the lease/management agreement.
- **We will communicate next steps and timelines** as the due diligence process evolves over the coming months.
- **A landing page, GrowingLocalCare.org,** has been created for you and our community members and is also posted on our website.
- **The goal is to finalize the documents in the fall of 2020** and execute the agreement on or around October 1, 2020.