

A Message from the Renewing for Health Steering Campaign Chair ...



Area residents and community groups who are learning about the Renewing for Health Campaign are asking the questions: 'Who Owns Richland Memorial Hospital?' and 'Don't I already support the Hospital through my property taxes?'

Mike David – Chairperson
Renewing for Health Steering Committee

Who Owns Richland Memorial Hospital?

Since January 18, 2005, Richland Memorial Hospital ***has been owned and operated by Richland Memorial Hospital, Inc., a not for profit, 501 (c) (3) corporation.*** The Board of Directors is composed of area residents who volunteer their time and talents to assure the continued provision of high quality patient care with a wide range of services.

From its opening in 1953 through early 1997, Richland Memorial Hospital was owned and operated by the County of Richland, with the publicly elected, 7 person County Board also serving as the Governing Board of RMH.

In 1997, the County Board entered into a 25 year operating lease agreement with Richland Memorial Hospital, Inc. a newly-formed not for profit entity with a volunteer board of 10 Richland County residents and an 11th voting member from the Richland County Board. This change in operational structure allowed the attention of a well diversified board to focus solely on the needs of Richland Memorial Hospital. Past and present members have included physicians and other medical professionals, attorneys, homemakers, bankers and others with financial training/background, members of the agriculture and small business sectors, clergy, social services representatives and individuals in various positions with the local schools and community college systems.

In 2003, discussions related to the development of a new Family Maternity Services unit at RMH determined the best way for the project to obtain funding would be through a single owner/operator. This led to the eventual transfer of ownership of Richland Memorial Hospital facility and services from the County to Richland Memorial Hospital, Inc. on January 18, 2005.

Does RMH Receive Tax Support?

Limited tax monies are used for capital and operating expenses of the Ambulance Service only as approved by public referendum in 1987 for the Ambulance Service.

