



USDA Funds Expansion for Eastern Kentucky Hospital in Promise Zone

USDA Rural Development State Director Tom Fern joined Congressman Hal Rogers and other local, state and federal officials on Aug. 4, 2014, to highlight completion of an expansion project for Hazard ARH Regional Medical Center.

USDA awarded Appalachian Regional Healthcare \$47 million in low-interest direct and guaranteed loans through its Rural Development Community Facilities program.

Hazard ARH Regional Medical Center is the largest hospital in southeastern Kentucky and serves as a regional referral center for a population of nearly 90,000 people in Kentucky and West Virginia.

The expansion allowed the hospital to add a three-story addition and 50 acute-care beds, which include 34 medical/surgical beds and 16 beds in the cardiac critical care unit. The project also included installation of a helipad for the roof.

The medical center needed to expand because it had outgrown its facility, wanted to reduce wait times, increase the number of acute inpatient beds and provide more space for its emergency department. This new facility will not only provide the space the medical center needs to operate more efficiently and provide better healthcare – it allows for future growth and expanded economic opportunity with the potential to introduce new business lines.

Hazard ARH Regional Medical Center cares for more than 14,000 inpatients, 100,000 outpatients and 25,000 emergency room patients each year. The center is home to an accredited chest pain center, level II nursery, accredited cancer center, accredited breast center and is proud to be the first Eastern Kentucky hospital to join the University of Kentucky Stroke Affiliate Network.

The expansion is named in honor of Joe Craft, a Hazard native who is an entrepreneur, attorney and energy industry leader. Craft, the president and CEO of Alliance Resource Partners, donated \$1 million toward the expansion project.



Appalachian Regional Medical has expanded its medical facility in Hazard, adding 50 new beds and a helipad.

Obligation Amount: \$47 million

Date of Obligation: FY10-11-12 (three loans)

Congressional District: Rep. Hal Rogers, KY-6; Senators Mitch McConnell and Rand Paul

Partners: Appalachian Regional Healthcare and Joe Craft, president and CEO of Alliance Resource Partners

Demographics: Perry County has been designated a StrikeForce county by USDA and is included in President Obama's Promise Zone Initiative in Southeastern Kentucky.

Impact: Hazard ARH Regional Medical Center is the largest hospital in southeastern Kentucky and serves as a regional referral center for a population of nearly 90,000 people in Kentucky and West Virginia.