



---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2022**

**For More Information Contact:**

Tina Rymer  
Director, Communications and Grassroots Advocacy  
West Virginia Hospital Association  
(304) 353-9717  
[trymer@wvha.org](mailto:trymer@wvha.org)

**CELEBRATING NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK (MAY 8-14, 2022) IN WEST VIRGINIA**

**CHARLESTON, WV** – Next week May 8-14, 2022, is National Hospital Week, which presents an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the many community contributions made by hospitals and hospital-based clinicians, caregivers, and support staff. This year’s theme is “We Are Health Care.”

“Community hospitals are essential to the people and places they serve, providing round-the-clock care to patients in need no matter the time of day,” said West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) President and CEO Jim Kaufman. “The more than 49,000 frontline health care providers who work in hospitals across West Virginia have demonstrated great resilience in the face of enormous challenges while working tirelessly and selflessly to keep West Virginians safe and healthy. “Their steadfast mission of caring and compassion has saved lives, healed families and helped to protect communities.”

To help commemorate Hospital Week 2022, the WVHA has developed this [30-second snapshot](#) highlighting the immense contributions made by the people who work in West Virginia’s hospitals. Collectively, our hospitals provide acute care and specialty medical services, behavioral health, psychiatric and substance abuse treatment, rehabilitation care, pediatric care, and more to meet the needs of patients across West Virginia.

In addition to that important work, West Virginia hospitals help power the state economy, as major employers that contribute roughly \$11.6 billion in positive economic activity each year. Hospitals also conduct research to achieve medical breakthroughs, help deliver nearly 18,000 babies each year, and are often the largest employers in their communities, accounting for 11 of the top 100 employers in West Virginia.

“If we’ve learned anything over the last two years, it’s that our team of hospital leaders and volunteers are always prepared to answer the call.” said Kaufman. “West Virginia’s hospitals are dedicated to serving the needs of their communities, even beyond traditional health care. With each health service, screening, education program and each dollar invested to help those in need, hospitals day in and day out work to advance the health of the communities they serve. Financial results can never adequately explain how people’s lives are touched, changed, and saved by services hospitals offer for free or significantly below cost.”

Kaufman added, “As we emerge from this pandemic stronger and more resilient, hospitals are committed to working with policymakers, patients, and the community to address ongoing challenges that have been further exacerbated during the pandemic such as workforce resilience and supply. Over the last two years, hospitals have certainly encountered numerous challenges and changes in the delivery of health care, but the hospitals in West Virginia have never lost focus on their shared vision: a strong health care system that optimizes our health status and improves the economic condition of the state.”

Join us in celebrating National Hospital Week, May 8-14, as we say THANK YOU to the health care heroes who make sacrifices to care for us every day.

###