

Long Term prepares to close

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Thursday, 24 June 2010 20:40 -

Plan in place for GMH residents, workers.

Gothenburg Memorial Hospital is moving forward with closure of its Long Term Care facility.

GMH administrator John Johnson said the facility is offering at least five relocation options for residents—including Gothenburg's Hilltop Estates and Care Center—and helping employees find other jobs.

Long Term Care employees, residents and their families learned about a week ago that the skilled nursing facility at Gothenburg Memorial Hospital would close Sept. 30.

On Tuesday, Johnson said 16 residents will be relocated in a facility that has beds for 31.

“Our numbers have been down for quite a while,” he said.

Severance pay is also being offered to full- and part-time employees.

Johnson said 20 to 22 employees will be laid off, noting that GMH hosted a job fair for those workers last week.

“We've also offered applications and information from other facilities in the surrounding area including Hilltop,” he said.

Staff positions will be eliminated and work schedules will be adjusted according to the number of residents, Johnson said.

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Johnson said they've not yet determined what to do with equipment and furniture although officials will work with the Nebraska Secretary of State in disposal of equipment.

During a meeting on June 9, hospital board members

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