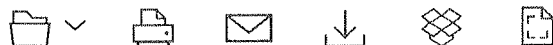


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Document: Delano Regional agrees to join Adventist Health Actions 

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Delano Regional agrees to join Adventist Health

The Bakersfield Californian

January 11, 2019 Friday

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Section: BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL NEWS

Length: 517 words

Byline: John Cox, The Bakersfield Californian

Body

Jan. 11--**Delano Regional Medical Center** has agreed to become part of Adventist Health Central California, pending regulatory approval.

The move announced Friday would fold 156-bed **Delano Regional**, operated by Central California Foundation for Health since 1992, into a much larger nonprofit organization with hospitals, clinics and other resources in 80 communities across the West Coast and Hawaii.

The addition of **Delano Regional** would also restack Kern County's highly competitive hospital market. Adventist's primary competitor in Bakersfield, San Francisco-based Dignity Health, has three local hospitals: Bakersfield Memorial and Mercy Hospital's downtown and southwest Bakersfield locations. If DRMC joins Adventist, then the Roseville-based chain would have three hospitals in Kern -- one each in Bakersfield, **Delano** and Tehachapi -- plus another proposed in northwest Bakersfield.

No money would change hands as part of the agreement because **Delano Regional** is joining Adventist without being purchased, said Adventist's **regional** communication director, Christine Pickering.

DRMC President Bahram Ghaffari said in a news release dated Thursday the decision follows careful review and is based on Adventist's "commitment to agricultural communities and its approach to providing care best aligned with **Delano's** mission and direction." He added it will allow **Delano Regional** to provide more coordinated care.

"**Delano Regional Medical Center** is pleased to join Adventist Health as we expand on our health-care services in the **Delano** area, while continuing to build on our dedication and commitment to the communities we serve," he wrote.

Adventist CEO Scott Reiner said in the same release he does not anticipate significant changes in the employee population or management structure "simply because DRMC already operates lean and very efficiently."

"We are pleased and humbled to be selected by **Delano Regional Medical Center**," he stated. "We look forward to building on the **medical center's** rich heritage in the community and living God's love as we expand access to quality care in **Delano** and the surrounding communities together."

The announcement appears to contradict emailed statements late last year by DRMC business development director Matthew Cauthron, who also directs marketing and community relations for the hospital.

"DRMC is not in any talks or agreement with any other hospital system," he wrote in an email Nov. 9. He denied the hospital was approached during the past year about a purchase offer and affirmed DRMC is not for sale, saying "we have not considered any benefits to such." Cauthron could not be reached for comment early Friday.

Delano Regional has an intensive care unit, a sub-acute care unit, a **medical** surgical unit, a surgical pavilion and an obstetrics/gynecology unit. Its clinics include three rural clinics: **Delano Women's Medical Clinic**, **Delano Urgent Care** and Wasco **Medical Plaza**.

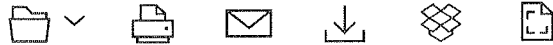
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Document: Delano hospital joining Adventist Health network; App... Actions

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Delano hospital joining Adventist Health network; Approval from state, federal officials still needed for deal

Visalia Times-Delta (California)

January 23, 2019 Wednesday, 1 Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A5

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Byline: By, Luis Hernandez, Visalia Times-Delta

Body

"The reason **Delano regional** chose to join Adventist is to better serve our community and expand our mission."

Matthew Cauthron

 **Delano Regional Medical Center**

community relations director

Delano Regional Medical Center has agreed to join Adventist Health, the health network provider that financially administers the Tulare hospital.

Bahram Ghaffari, **Delano Regional Medical Center** president, announced the decision this month as Adventist continues to pick up Valley locations. Approval from the California Attorney General's Office and the Federal Trade Commission is still needed to make the agreement effective.

The review from the state attorney's office may take up to five months, officials said.

"They want to make sure we are going to continue the level of service," said Christine Pickering, Adventist Health Central California Region's communication director.

Matthew Cauthron, **Delano** hospital's community relations director, said joining Adventist Health network will permit **Delano** hospital access resources other healthcare networks already have available.

Cauthron said **Delano Regional Medical Center** is not being sold. The hospital is doing well and is in good financial standing.

"**Delano Regional Medical Center** is a standalone hospital," Cauthron said.

"The reason **Delano regional** chose to join Adventist is to better serve our community and expand our mission."

Delano regional's physicians, patients, and employees will also benefit from joining the network, Cauthron said.

"Our leadership wants more for our employees, physicians and patients," he said.

The agreement with Adventist Health is the result of a Request For Proposal, timed to coincide with Ghaffari's retirement. Bill Noble, **Delano regional's** CEO, is also planning to retire. The two administrators will remain until the transaction is complete.

Delano Regional Medical Center received at least three responses to the RFP. Adventist Health was the best fit, Ghaffari said.

"After careful review, **Delano** selected Adventist Health because its commitment to agricultural communities and its approach to providing care best aligned with **Delano's** mission and direction," he said.

Adventist Health CEO Scott Reiner is also pleased with the merger.

"We look forward to building on the **medical center's** rich heritage in the community and living God's love as we expand access to quality care in **Delano** and the surrounding communities together."

Governed by Central California Foundation for Health, **Delano Regional Medical Center** is a full-service community hospital. **Delano regional** serves 10 Central Valley towns, including the lower half of Tulare County.

With a total of 156 beds, **Delano regional** is a not-for-profit hospital with services including an Intensive Care Unit, a Sub-Acute Care Unit, a **Medical Surgical Unit**, a dedicated Surgical Pavilion and an Obstetrics/Gynecology Unit.

Delano regional also provides services through **Delano Women's Medical Clinic**, **Delano Urgent Care** and Wasco **Medical Plaza**.

With the addition of **Delano regional**, Adventist Health will increase its presence in southern San Joaquin Valley. Already Adventist Health had locations in Bakersfield and Tulare.

Adventist Health also operates hospitals in Reedley, Hanford, Tehachapi, Lodi, and Sonora.

Since November, Adventist Health has financially managed Tulare **regional**. At a previous meeting, Kevin Northcraft, Tulare **regional** hospital board president, said the Adventist Health administration is going well.

"The reason **Delano regional** chose to join Adventist is to better serve our community and expand our mission."

Matthew Cauthron

Delano Regional Medical Center

community relations director

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Organization: CALIFORNIA STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE (83%); FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (57%)

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Adventist Health wants to add another Central Valley hospital

Sacramento Business Journal (California)

January 11, 2019 Friday

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Length: 352 words

Byline: Felicia Alvarez

Body

Roseville-based Adventist Health hopes to add a new hospital to its system, with plans announced Wednesday to bring **Delano Regional Medical Center** into the fold.

 The Central Valley hospital would join Adventist Health's portfolio of over a dozen rural hospitals in California, including at least three that were opened or acquired within the last year. Among the recent additions to the Adventist Health system are Rideout Health [in Marysville](#), a previously bankrupt hospital [in](#)

Tulare and a newly constructed hospital in Tehachapi Valley in Southern California.

If the affiliation with the **Delano medical center** is approved by California's attorney general and the Federal Trade Commission, the hospital would become the 24th operated by Adventist Health.

"After careful review, **Delano** selected Adventist Health because its commitment to agricultural communities and its approach to providing care best aligned with **Delano's** mission and direction," said Bahram Ghaffari, the president of the **medical center**, in a press statement.

Adventist Health said it's not anticipating significant changes to the number of employees or management structure at the **Delano** hospital.

"**Delano** has been thriving. They just opened a \$20 million outpatient services pavilion," said Christine Pickering, spokeswoman for Adventist Health.

The 156-bed **medical center** reported patient revenues of \$146 million and a loss of \$3.1 million, for the year-to-date ending on Sept. 30, 2018, in the hospital's most recent financial disclosure. The **medical center** reported \$60.2 million in assets as of September.

Pickering emphasized that the agreement signed between the two organizations was "not a purchase," and declined to detail financials behind the partnership.

The affiliation would also include three rural health clinics that **Delano Regional Medical Center** operates, including a women's **medical** clinic, an urgent care **center** and a **medical** plaza for physician practices.

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Company: ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM (92%)