

ADDRESSING RURAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

WVU Medicine Uniontown Hospital is a community hospital dedicated to compassionate care that has provided a full range of medical services to residents of Fayette County and the surrounding areas for more than a century. The 145-bed facility is home to more than 200 medical staff, representing more than 30 medical specialties, who serve an estimated population of 130,000 people.

Fayette County residents welcome about 1,250 babies each year, yet they are forced to travel elsewhere for delivery since the hospital's birthing unit closed in 2018. The nearest hospitals with labor and delivery services are at least 30 minutes away – in Morgantown, West Virginia, or Westmoreland and Allegheny counties in Pennsylvania. Access and transportation challenges, combined with the area's high poverty and substance abuse rates, create risks for inadequate prenatal care. Those issues also bring many expectant mothers to Uniontown Hospital's emergency department, where their babies are delivered without the obstetrical resources necessary to help their children thrive.

/ BETTER HEALTHCARE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

A \$5 million capital investment will enable Uniontown Hospital to revive its former Labor and Delivery Unit to better serve the surrounding areas. While the basic structure for the unit already exists, the hospital must upgrade the facilities and equipment to meet the latest requirements for obstetrical healthcare services. This community fundraising effort will provide \$3 million for infrastructure and renovation, plus \$2 million for furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

The revamped space will include a four-bay triage area; five labor, delivery, and recovery rooms; a dedicated C-section suite; 11 postpartum rooms; a newborn nursery; a threebed special care nursery; and a one-bed isolation nursery. The facility will also integrate a comprehensive Centering Program for Opioid-Addicted Mothers. The projected opening date for the new and improved Labor and Delivery Unit is late 2024 or early 2025.

This project will not only expand healthcare services for a rural area in need; it will also create jobs to help strengthen the local economy. WVU Medicine expects to hire at least 40 new employees to staff the Labor and Delivery Unit at Uniontown Hospital, including obstetricians, obstetrical physician assistants, pediatricians, nurses, and ancillary staff to support unit operations.





UNIONTOWN HOSPITAL



YOUR SUPPORT HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE LIVES.

Make a gift today to revive the Labor and Delivery Unit at Uniontown Hospital. Your contribution will transform our community hospital to provide better care for the children of Fayette County and the surrounding communities.

Visit **give.wvu.edu/uniontownhospital** or contact Ben Becze, CFRE, Senior Director of Development, at bbecze@wvuf.org or 304-413-6276.







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