



SOUTH TEXAS
REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

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Press Release

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CAMERON COUNTY'S FIRST FREE-STANDING REHABILITATION HOSPITAL HOLDS GRAND OPENING

The South Texas Rehabilitation Hospital (STRH) will host a grand opening reception and open house on Wednesday, June 22, 2005, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., with a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:30 p.m. The event will celebrate the successful start-up of acute rehabilitation services and completion of requirements for the licensing and certification of Cameron County's only freestanding rehabilitation hospital.

STRH is a new facility providing inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services to patients with functional deficits as a result of illness or debilitating injury such as stroke, amputation, brain injury, spinal cord injury, hip fracture or multiple trauma.

The facility features 40 patient beds, a 6,000 square foot therapy gym equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, an aquatic

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therapy pool, outdoor therapy courtyard, and the latest technology for acute rehabilitation services.

"STRH employs a staff of approximately 100, which is expected to grow to 150 as the hospital swings into full operation," said Kevin Chavez, CEO. He believes that it is the staff that really makes the difference in providing acute rehabilitative services to the community.

"Our team members are not only highly qualified and experienced in their fields of expertise, but they are passionate caregivers as well," Chavez said. "There is a lot of excitement about opening our hospital and serving the needs of our community."

The grand opening is being held almost a year to the date of the groundbreaking for the facility. Construction began in July of 2004 and was completed in March of 2005. In May, the Texas Department of Health established that STRH had met all the requirements for licensing and certification of a brand new hospital.

STRH is part of a network of post-acute care facilities operated by Ernest Health, Inc., (EHI) an Albuquerque, New Mexico based healthcare provider specializing in the development and operation of rehabilitation and related post-acute healthcare facilities. EHI operates another facility in Las Cruces, New

Mexico and has facilities under construction in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho and Texas.

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