



NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release

## McCall Memorial Hospital Joins St. Luke's Health System

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On October 1, officials with McCall Memorial Hospital and St. Luke's Health System signed the final agreement for McCall to become St. Luke's McCall.

McCall, a 15-bed critical access hospital in central Idaho, becomes the fifth hospital in Idaho's largest and only locally-controlled health care system with more than 8,500 employees.

"McCall Memorial Hospital is a wonderful hospital comprised of dedicated employees and volunteers who care deeply about their community and the people they serve," said David C. Pate, MD, JD, President and CEO of St. Luke's Health System. "Together we will work to transform health care and thrive in the new health care reform environment as we work to attain the highest possible quality at the lowest cost with outstanding patient satisfaction and service.

Leaders at St. Luke's and McCall had been exploring a formal partnership for more than a year. The two organizations have a long history since 1999 when St. Luke's took over management of the hospital.

Like many rural hospitals, in recent years McCall Memorial, founded in 1956, faced increased economic challenges and the costs associated with complying with new health care regulations.

"We believe our quality patient care can best be maintained, and even expanded, by joining St. Luke's," said McCall Memorial Hospital CEO Lee Rhodes. "Access to patient data, acceptance of more insurance programs, and transferring patients smoothly to receive care that is not available in McCall can greatly enhance a patient's experience and outcome."

In a non-binding advisory vote held August 3, 86 percent of McCall Hospital District residents who voted endorsed joining St. Luke's. The vote came after a year-and-a-half of discussions between St. Luke's and McCall Memorial.

St. Luke's McCall would be governed by a local board of directors composed of area residents with one member being appointed by St. Luke's Health System. This governance structure allows local decision making for the hospital to remain in place.

**About St. Luke's Health System**

*St. Luke's Health System is Idaho's largest and only locally controlled health care system, employing more than 8,500 people. With hospitals in Boise, Meridian, Twin Falls, Ketchum and McCall, St. Luke's provides patients with unmatched care in specialized medical fields including cancer, heart and vascular, obstetrics, women's services and children's health care. To find out more, visit [www.stlukesonline.org](http://www.stlukesonline.org).*

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