

# Important!!Elbert Memorial Hospital gains national attention and recognition for achieving Critical Access Designation - Elbert Billboard for Hospital of Year tells the story and it's a real story!!!

1 message

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Mon, Nov 16, 2020 a

HomeTown Health CEO's and Senior Staff:

Reference: Important!!Elbert Memorial Hospital gains national attention and recognition for achieving Critical Access Designation - Elbert Billboard for Hospital of Year tells the story and it's story!!!

HomeTown Health CEO's and Senior Staff:

Sooooo....... Everybody has a story and Elbert Memorial has a very real story of from major financial stress and closing to celebrating a living success. It did so by bringing a new CEO in, Kerr Trapnell, to take over what had been called a failing hospital. Failing by most standards because it was losing lots of money and was losing community trust and support. Then along comes a 1 CEO who brings a new vision and a strong focus on the saving of the hospital. The story actually is many stories as are listed below in the recognition articles.

So, while some, stories are much about bad news, there are other stories with great news from which Elbert Memorial is one. When you read these stories there is are themes as with Elbert Me that comes through with successes and life and rejuvenation and those themes are:

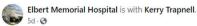
- 1. Vision with no vision the people perish
- 2. Patient Centered care for all of the patients
- 3. Persistence with a "no give up " attitude
- 4. Refusing to accept "no" as an answer
- 5. Thinking out of the box
- 6. Readily accept and promote change
- 7. Build the team!!!! Empower the Team!!!
- 8. Protect the public asset for the good of the community and its patients

There are several stories embedded in this email that now define Elbert Memorial Hospital and they include:

- 1. Applying for and receiving approval for the Critical Access Designation for Elbert Memorial
  - a. This is a national noteworthy event!
  - b. This means an increase in reimbursement that literally can save a rural hospital
- 2. Having CEO Kerry Trapnell nominated by State Office of Rural Health for and receiving the Community Star Award another national noteworthy event!! (See press release below)
- 3. Cleaning up financials from prior to receiving Critical Access Award
- 4. Strengthening the Hospital Board with Board Training and education as guided by Hospital Board Chairman Daniel Graves and according to the state legislature law!
- 5. Awarded HomeTown Health's Hospital of the Year!!
- 6. Received major support from its hospital Foundation directed by Nancy Seymour
- 7. Leadership development, Russell Toms, Directory of radiology, completed the HomeTown Executive Leadership program
- 8. Development of a new hospital website https://www.emhcare.net/community/author/nseymour/
- 9. And there are many others but these to name a few!!!

All that said, congratulations are in order to Kerry Trapnell and his team for these awards and successes having come from a near financial failure in the pre-CAH Days.

Action Item: send Kerry a huge congratulations for the team that he has built and their tremendous successes!!!



Please join us in congratulating EMH CEO, Kerry Trapnell, as he has been selected as the 2020 Community Star for the state of Georgia by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH). Thank you for your leadership and constant effort to keep essential healthcare services local to our community!





Hospital CEO, Kerry Trapnell,
has been selected as the
2020Community Star for the state
of Georgia by the National
Organization of State
Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH).
Trapnell was selected for this national
honor for his diligent work in meeting
several goals associated with the Rural
Hospital Stabilization Grant program
and for achieving Critical Access Status
for EMH, the first Georgia hospital in
nearly 20 years to gain this status.

For more information, see our Press Release and please visit www.powerofrural.org.





Press Release 9/9/20

## Kerry Trapnell Selected as 2020 Community Star for Georgia

**Elberton, GA** – Elbert Memorial Hospital Chief Executive Officer, Kerry Trapnell, has been selected as the 2020 Community Star representing the State of Georgia. This honor was awarded to Trapnell by the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH).

On November 19, 2020, the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Rural Health Day, the NOSORH will honor Trapnell and celebrate his contributions to rural health by sharing his Elbert Memorial Hospital (EMH) story and the stories of others from across the United States in the official annual book of Community Stars.

Trapnell was nominated for this award by the Georgia State Office of Rural Health. In their nomination, they cited the many goals Trapnell met in the Rural Hospital Stabilization Grant Program and for achieving Critical Access Status for EMH, the first Georgia hospital in nearly 20 years to gain this status. They also added, "Kerry's passion for his hospital and community certainly qualify him as Georgia's Community Star!"

"I am truly honored and blessed to be selected to receive this award and national recognition. Partnering with the State Office of Rural Health truly made a difference at EMH and it ultimately saved our hospital. We couldn't have done this without their help and without the hard work and determination of our wonderful Team at EMH!"

More information about this national award will be released in November and will be available at <a href="www.powerofrural.org">www.powerofrural.org</a>. The Community Star eBook will be located on this website and the ability to purchase a hard copy of this popular annual publication will also be available. You can also be kept up to date on all of this year's National Rural Health Day activities at the website.

# **Critical** access

EMH's new designation 'great news' says CEO

By Rose Scoggins rscoggins@elberton.com

Kerry Trapnell, CEO of Elbert Memorial Hospital, announced that EMH is in the process of being classified as a critical access hospital at the EMH Authority board meeting last week.

Critical access hospitals receive payments for patient services through Medicare. Trapnell said the hospital's recommendation was submitted Sept. 5 and he was notified that it was received for approval on Oct. 17.

"This is huge news for us. We were told when we applied on Sept. 5 that Medicare had a minimum of 60 days to report back to us," Trapnell said. "We got it back in a month and a half, which is less than that. Everyone we've talked to is highly impressed that they did it quick. In fact, we got our notice before the state got their notice."

The next step in the process is a state survey that will be done at EMH. Trapnell said they hope to have it completed by mid-November.

"This is obviously great news for us," Trapnell said. "We're at the part now where the American Hospital Association told me I'd never get. They said don't even try, you'll never get this. We got it in 40 days. I think we're going in the right direction."

Trapnell also said that EMH could be used as the example for rural hospitals that apply for the critical access classification on a national level.

Trapnell also announced that EMH's accounts payable finances have made a quarter of a million drop in the last month due to receiving property tax funds.

The hospital had \$3.9 million for total gross revenue funds for the month of September, putting the year-to-date total gross revenue at \$10.6 million. These numbers are up from the previous year's \$2.3 million in September and \$7.6 million YTD last year.

Chairman Daniel Graves announced at the meeting that Rachel McCall has resigned from the authority board due to becoming EMH's Patient Experience Specialist. A nominating committee will be put together in order to nominate a new at-large member. Volume 132, Number 45

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WEDNESDAY November 6, 2019

1 Dollar



Critical access

By Rose Scoggins on Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Subhead

EMH's new designation 'great news' says CEO



**EMH** 

Kerry Trapnell, CEO of Elbert Memorial Hospital, announced that EMH is in the process of being classified as a critical access hospital at the EMH Authority board meet last week.

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"The Voice of Georgia's 55+ Rural Hospitals"

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Elberton Star Announcement of Critical Access Hospital Feb. 5, 2020.pdf