

Trinity Memorial Hospital District COVID-19 Response

Hospital Board Election. Postponed until November 3, 2020 in accord with the Governor's Proclamation, Executive Order GA 14.

Hospital Building. On March 28th, the Trinity Memorial Hospital was surveyed by a team from the Texas Air National Guard. This was in response to an order by the State Emergency Team whose mission is to identify facilities that might be used during the COVID-19 pandemic if needed. The team consisted of four guardsmen, each with a specific set of skills, eg medical, mechanical. They inspected HVAC equipment, generator, rooms and even fire extinguishers. They were very impressed with the facility and said it checked all of the boxes on their report with high marks and could be brought into use in a very short time frame. Their comments indicated they had visited other facilities that were not nearly as nice. In addition, the District Board has notified area hospitals that the hospital facility is available if it can be of help to them during this pandemic.

Supplies. The District reviewed inventory and has been able to loan two portable ventilators to Ventura Ambulance service. In addition, 5080 N95 masks and 1390 fluid shield masks as well as disposable gowns and disposable gloves were made available to the Clinic and 1080 N95 masks were supplied to a home healthcare service.

HealthPoint Clinic Response. HealthPoint Trinity is operational and, as reported previously, has protocols in place to test for COVID-19, which it is doing. The clinic has made many temporary changes as it adjusts to the ever-changing conditions and recommendations by CDC and the State Health Department. Starting Monday, April 8th, in addition to other measures already in place (screening all staff and patients before entering the clinic; dividing the clinic day into well visits in the morning and sick visits in the afternoon, etc.), HealthPoint will be transitioning approximately 50% of face to face encounters to TeleHealth visits. Many will be by phone call. Others will be by video app – TeleMedicine Visit. The provider and his/her staff will arrange the first visit with patients and determine whether they can be treated via TeleHealth. Except for children under 5, all other well visits will be postponed until the crisis wanes and normalcy returns. In addition, staff and providers will be calling patients who remain at home just to check on their mental and physical health. HealthPoint Trinity had 12,100 patient visits last year; and 4,100 patients. It provides needed healthcare in the community to many.