

NEWS RELEASE

Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation
1401 West 5th Street
Sheridan, WY 82801

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation
Ada Kirven, Executive Director: (307) 673-2417

FOR RELEASE May 25, 2011:

Griffith and Watt Foundations Lead Donors for the new Welch Cancer Center Project

The Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation announced that it has secured gifts and pledges totaling \$2,460,000 for the new Sheridan Memorial Hospital Welch Cancer Center. Construction on the new center is anticipated to begin later this year. When completed, it will provide much needed space for patients and their families during their diagnosis and throughout treatment.

The Vernon and Rowena Griffith Foundation recently pledged \$1 million as a lead major gift in support of a new Welch Cancer Center. Since its first donation to the hospital in 1977, the Griffith Foundation has given fifty-four gifts. This financial support has been utilized by Sheridan Memorial Hospital to fund many vital projects over those years including the New Patient Wing, the Home for Life Project, Emergency Department Expansion and the Foundation's Nursing Scholarship Program.

Shirley Yager, Campaign Co-chair, stated, "This is a wonderful gift. The Foundation approached the Griffith Board of Directors and explained the need for enhanced patient-centered cancer care in our community. They saw it as a good fit with the wishes of the Griffiths and committed to help us with a Lead Gift. After thirty-four years of support with gifts totaling just over \$8 million to Sheridan Memorial Hospital, the Vernon S. and Rowena W. Griffith Foundation continues to lead the way in support for capital projects and programs at our facility."

"The Joseph H. and Arlene Watt Foundation has also supported many capital projects at the hospital including sole funding for the Watt Dialysis Center. This recent \$1 million pledge brings the Watt Foundation gifts to \$2.7 million to our Hospital. The Watt board members' commitment to make this type of specialized healthcare available in the Sheridan community is remarkable. Sheridan Memorial Hospital is grateful to be able to partner with both the Griffith and the Watt Foundations on this tremendous project," said Yager.

Foundation Director Ada Kirven added that the Hospital Foundation was asked by Sheridan Memorial Hospital to raise funds to support a portion of the cost of the \$8.2 project for the building and new equipment. These two lead gifts will help enable the Foundation to reach its goal of \$4 million. Over the next few months a public capital campaign will also begin to share project information with the public. Community members may call 673-2418 if they would like more information about the new Welch Cancer Center or to schedule a presentation and tour.