

Wayne Memorial Hospital Receives \$10,000 in Georgia HEART Funds via Windham Brannon, LLC

Jesup, GA – Through the Georgia Rural Health Tax Program, Georgia HEART, Wayne Memorial recently received \$10,000 via Windham Brannon, LLC. Pictured are Hospital Chief Financial Officer Greg Jones (left) and Windham Brannon Healthcare Advisory Business Development Director Chris Andersen (right) at the check presentation.

The state of Georgia's rural hospitals have long been facing a financial crisis, jeopardizing the access of rural Georgians to adequate health care. As a result in 2016, the Georgia General Assembly passed, and Governor Nathan Deal signed into law, Senate Bill 258. This piece of legislation awards Georgia income tax credits to individual and corporate taxpayers who contribute to qualified rural hospital organizations located in Georgia.

"We aim to make a difference for healthcare providers because we know that, ultimately, we are serving patients and their communities. Everyone will be a patient at some point in their life, which is something we take to heart," Danielle Epps, healthcare advisory practice co-leader at Windham Brannon said.

Participation in the Georgia HEART program is limited to Georgia rural hospitals that meet certain qualification criteria established in the law. These include population size (50,000 or less, excluding military personnel), tax-exempt status or public hospital authority management, acceptance of Medicare and Medicaid, and a minimum annual provision of indigent or uncompensated care. In order to qualify, rural hospitals must also file a five-year plan with the Georgia Department of Community Health.

"We are certainly grateful for this donation. The Georgia HEART program has been a blessing to us as well as our fellow rural hospitals throughout the state," Jones said. Wayne Memorial is one of 14 Georgia hospitals to receive a \$10,000 donation from Georgia HEART via Windham Brannon. [See the full list.](#)

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Wayne Memorial Hospital, whose mission is to provide high quality health care services to all patients, built a state-of-the-art facility in 2007. It is the third largest employer in Wayne County with 500 employees, 84 beds and is a three-time winner of the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals Small Hospital of the Year Award.

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