

PRESS RELEASE



J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

J.C. Blair Replaces 52 Hospital Beds

Huntingdon, PA, 2/7/08 – Two large tractor trailers rolled into J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital’s parking lot today with 52 new hospital beds. Hospital staff formed an assembly line from the loading dock to the Hospital’s three inpatient units, moving the 52 new beds in and 52 old beds out.

Hospital beds have a useful expectancy of 12-15 years. The beds being replaced have been in service for 27 years. “This project is long overdue. Our patients have told us and our nurses have told us,” said Vice President of Patient Care Pam Matthias. “This is a big investment – a total cost of \$299,000 – that will pay off in improved patient comfort, care and safety.”

The new beds are manufactured by Hill-Rom, the leading manufacturer of hospital beds. The new Tempur-Pedic Medical mattresses have been proven to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers more effectively than foam and air mattresses. The beds also have built-in scales to weigh patients, television controls, and bed alarms to alert nurses of patient needs.

A number of the beds being replaced are being donated to PRIDE, the Huntingdon County Career and Technology Center’s LPN and HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) programs. Hill-Rom is taking all of the remaining beds.

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