



A rendering of the coming freestanding emergency department in Davenport.

Around BayCare Polk

Hello! Below are some highlights of the happenings around Bartow Regional Medical Center, Winter Haven Hospital and Winter Haven Women's Hospital and other BayCare properties in Polk County. Please credit BayCare Health System if you reproduce any of the items below in your publications. If you would like more information about any of the items below, feel free to reach out to Nafari Morris at 863-514-6388 or nafari.morris@baycare.org.

BayCare Bringing New Emergency Care Facility to Eastern Polk County

BayCare is expanding access to its clinically excellent emergency care with plans to build a new freestanding emergency department in Davenport, Florida, the health system announced in September. The 12,000-square-foot facility at the southeast corner of U.S. Highway 27 and Ridgewood Lakes Boulevard will house 15 spaces for treating patients.

BMG-Winter Haven Location Welcomes New Physician

Dr. Rebecca Thomas joins the BayCare Medical Group family medicine practice at 635 First Street North in Winter Haven, Florida, where she sees patients age 5 and older. She diagnoses and treats short-term and long-term illnesses, including hypertension, hyperactivity disorder, anxiety, vaginal infections, urinary tract infections, sinusitis and sore throat. She has expertise in treating chronic diabetes, gastroenteritis and chronic high blood pressure. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/45Xs9jl>

Bartow Regional Medical Center, Winter Haven hospitals Celebrate Environmental Services Teams

The week of Sept. 14-20 was Healthcare Environmental Services Week, and our hospitals recognized our teams that play a critical role in maintaining safe and clean facilities for patients, staff and visitors. To see BRMC's recognition post, [click here](#). To see WHH's recognition post, [click here](#).

Bartow Regional Medical Center, Winter Haven hospitals Celebrate Rehabilitation Teams

Our hospitals' rehab teams are involved in patient recovery, whether it involves a knee injury or a brain injury. National Rehabilitation Awareness Month was observed from Sept. 15-21. To see BRMC's recognition post, [click here](#). To see WHH's recognition post, [click here](#).

Winter Haven Women's Hospital Participates in National NICU Read-a-Thon

Winter Haven Women's Hospital took part in an annual NICU read-a-thon, a friendly competition between hospitals to see which hospitals could read the most to these tiny patients. [Many of our team members stopped in to the NICU for some reading time between Sept. 8-18.](#)

Team Member Recognitions

- Congratulations to [Katherine Jackson](#), who was a Team Member of the Month recipient at Bartow Regional Medical Center.

- [Lucio Medina](#) was also named as a Team Member of the Month at Bartow Regional Medical Center.
- [Jessica Westmoreland](#) was a recent Team Member of the Month recipient at Winter Haven Hospital.
- [Alyssa Kirkpatrick](#) was recently honored with a DAISY Award at Winter Haven Hospital.

Around the System

***EDITOR'S PICK*:** [Fortune Names BayCare to 2025 Best Workplaces in Health Care List, Ranking No. 22](#)

[BayCare Receives American Medical Association Joy in Medicine® Award](#)

[BayCare Releases 2024 Physician and Provider Annual Report](#)

October Health Care Observations

Oct. 10: World Mental Health Day

Oct. 12-18: National Case Management Week

Breast Cancer Awareness Month | [Winter Haven Hospital's Cassidy Cancer Center](#)