



To all Northside employees:

We have made the difficult decision to begin the intended closure process of Northside Regional Medical Center. The hospital intends to cease operations and close September 20.

Northside holds a special place for so many Ohio families. That's why this decision was made after careful analysis and consideration of the hospital needs of the community.

Despite continued investment, Northside Regional Medical Center remains significantly under-utilized – as it has been for many years. This is not a reflection on the hospital's dedicated staff. While other nearby hospitals have seen increasing numbers of patient visits in recent years, Northside has seen a 71 percent decrease over the past decade. Every night, four out of five beds are empty.

Starting today, Steward Health Care is contacting every Northside patient to transition those with scheduled procedures to Steward's nearby hospitals – Trumbull Regional Medical Center and Sharon Regional Medical Center. Additionally, patients seeking information about the intended closure can call a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-846-9013.

We are confident that the Youngstown community will continue to have access to high-quality affordable hospital alternatives at Trumbull Regional Medical Center, Sharon Regional Medical Center, St. Elizabeth Youngstown Hospital, St. Elizabeth Boardman, St. Joseph Health Center, Akron Children's Hospital, and The Surgical Hospital at Southwoods.

For our employees, we are doing everything we can to ensure they are taken care of and that there is an orderly transition. All employees are invited to join leadership for forums in the Politis Auditorium at the following times:

- *Wednesday, August 15:* 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.; 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.; 6 p.m.
- *Thursday, August 16:* 7 a.m. – 8 a.m.

Should the closure process take place, employees of Northside Regional Medical Center will be paid through October 14 and compensated for accrued benefits. On Thursday, August 23, we intend to host a job fair onsite and provide access to outplacement services.

Northside Regional Medical Center intends to stop taking ambulances and admissions in the Emergency Department as of 6 a.m. on September 17. Thereafter, Northside intends to transfer or discharge any inpatients remaining at the hospitals as of September 19.

We pledge to keep you updated on all developments as this process continues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Grass".

Linda Grass

Interim President, Northside Regional Medical Center