

Good Shepherd Enhances Services and Location in Kilgore

Beginning May 4, Good Shepherd Family Health Center will begin operating their family medicine practice and urgent care services from a new location. The Family Health Center is subleasing space from Allegiance Specialty Hospital and relocating to the former Laird Memorial Hospital Emergency Room space to continue to provide health care services to the Kilgore community. In addition to family medicine and urgent care services, the center will also offer occupational medicine and Orthodirect services.

Sherry Bustin, Allegiance CEO, said having GSMC in the hospital will provide even greater accessibility of health care services to the citizens of Kilgore. "The community needs the kinds of services that Good Shepherd can bring here, and we are pleased to find a partner that shared this vision."

Allegiance is a specialty hospital that operates an inpatient behavioral health unit for senior adults, an acute care unit for persons age 18 and over, and outpatient counseling services.

Dr. Jill Holland, MD, family medicine, will continue to patients by appointment and Mike Smith, PA-C, a certified physician's assistant, will manage the urgent care center. Morton said the urgent care center's hours will be 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, but officials hope to extend the hours even further in the near future.

"The urgent care center will be for emergencies such as fractures, migraines, and minor cuts and bruises," Morton said, adding that patients brought in with more traumatic injuries will be transferred to GSMC's Longview ER. The occupational medicine center will specialize in treatment of workers injured on the job. A moderate complexity lab will be able to perform tests for pregnancy, strep and mononucleosis, urinalyses and lipid profiles, among others.

GSMC will accept most private insurance plans, Medicare and Medicaid. Good Shepherd also plans to be involved in community events and health fairs.

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