

## Stone County Medical Center Update

**February, 2008** - Mountain View, Ark - An Emergency assessment, treatment and transfer center continues to operate from the Surgery Department of the hospital. Emergency physicians and clinical staff continue to provide 24 hr. medical care to area residents.

In addition to the medical personnel on site, crews are working to restore utilities. Water service has been restored. The natural gas line damaged in the storm was repaired on Tuesday evening. Full electrical power should be restored by Sunday. Crews are working to restore telephone service to the hospital campus.

SCMC Employees and volunteers from Cal Frac of Beebe and other volunteers worked Wednesday and Thursday assisting with clean up. Clean up began on the south side of the hospital next to the highway clearing debris from the helipad area to restore air transport capability.

Hospital officials and structural engineers continue to assess the damage to the facility and develop a plan to rebuild and reopen inpatient services.

"White River Health System (WRHS) is dedicated to providing healthcare services to residents in Stone County," said Gary L. Bebow, WRHS Administrator/CEO. "We are committed to the rebuilding effort." □

Temporary physician offices will be set up on the north side of the hospital campus for Dr. Ron Simpson, Dr. Charles Varela, Dr. Michelle Bishop, and Dr. Anandaraj "Andy" Subramaniam and should be operational on Wednesday, February 13. Dr. James Zini, Dr. Scott Dibrell and Dr. John Irvin have been able to reopen their offices.

Patients evacuated to Stone County Nursing and Rehabilitation Center have been transferred to other facilities for care, admitted to the nursing home or discharged to their homes.

The SCMC Human Resource Department is open and available to assist employees.

"The response by our employees and residents of Stone County to this tragedy has been remarkable," said Karen Craft, SCMC Administrator. "We are grateful to the volunteers and emergency crews working to support us. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who suffered losses in the storm." □