

St. James Mercy Hospital
Op-Ed: What's in Store for 2016
February 7, 2016

St. James Mercy Hospital Sets Sights on Successful 2016

Making predictions in the New Year – especially in a public manner -- often puts one in a precarious position. Will we accomplish what we say we want to accomplish? Or will we fall flat of expectations?

Last year, I wrote a column for *The Evening-Tribune* that outlined what St. James Mercy Hospital expected for 2015. I recently reviewed the column, and I am proud to say we accomplished many of the goals we set out for ourselves.

Oak Orchard Health began providing pediatric care this past fall and plans to continue to expand more services in 2016. Loyola Recovery Foundation, Inc., began offering addiction services, and we continued to move forward with agreements to transition long-term care to Post Acute Partners and dialysis services to Fresenius.

We transformed how we deliver clinical care, aligning our operations with the current needs of Hornell and the surrounding communities. St. James Mercy Hospital continues to provide a full range of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency, express care, acute medical and surgical, imaging, laboratory, and specialty services such as cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation, physical and speech therapy, and orthopedics. We believe we are meeting the spirit of the New York State initiative to transform healthcare throughout the state. We have submitted applications for funding that will help us build a new facility from which our collaborative group of partners can deliver care in a modern setting.

Looking ahead to 2016, I am not planning to make any significant, groundbreaking pronouncements as I did in 2015. We weathered through a significant storm in our more than 125-year history, and we are still caring for the citizens of Hornell and surrounding communities. While we need to continue to work with the state and our partner UR Medicine to finalize our next steps for additional funding, a new facility and a potential formal affiliation, our collective primary focus is where it should be: delivering quality care to you.

You've noticed. We began to see more people using our healthcare services this past summer, and we're pleased to see we have restored your confidence in our ability to help you heal. We've added more providers, restored 24/7 surgery, and are continuing to attract new physicians and nurses to our great region. We're thankful for the efforts of the UR Medicine team and all of our regional partners in these endeavors and will continue to find new ways we can be your healthcare provider of choice.

Jennifer L. Sullivan
President and CEO
St. James Mercy Hospital