

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18th, 2025

Poplar Bluff, MO — Missouri Highlands Health Care is proud to announce the acquisition of the Saint Francis Poplar Bluff Campus (Coppertop). This strategic move brings all of our existing Poplar Bluff services including Medical, Dental, Pediatrics, Behavioral Health, Substance Use Treatment, Lab, Imaging, and OB/GYN together under one roof, providing a centralized, modern space that enhances accessibility, coordination, and the overall patient experience.

As part of this transition, Missouri Highlands will consolidate its existing Poplar Bluff clinics into the new facility and assume operations of the Saint Francis Poplar Bluff Campus (Coppertop) practice. Saint Francis patients will become part of the Missouri Highlands Health Care family, if they choose, and current Saint Francis staff will have the opportunity to join our team.

“This acquisition is a tremendous opportunity for our community,” said Karen White, CEO of Missouri Highlands Health Care. “Missouri Highlands Health Care remains committed to meeting the healthcare needs of our region. Through our approach to whole person care, delivered by skilled professionals in a caring environment, we honor our mission to serve the residents of our region.”

Originally, Missouri Highlands planned to construct a new facility on Barron Road utilizing USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Loan and Grant Program funds. After careful consideration, the organization received approval to redirect those funds to the acquisition of the Saint Francis Poplar Bluff Campus (Coppertop) building. This shift allows us to bring all Missouri Highlands Poplar Bluff services under one roof, delivering more integrated, accessible care to our patients sooner. Most importantly, it allows us to invest directly in a location that will serve our community now and into the future, while also ensuring we make meaningful use of an existing facility.

“We’re excited to bring all Missouri Highlands services in Poplar Bluff together under one roof much sooner than anticipated,” added White. “This move helps us create a more connected, welcoming space for our patients and staff, while also making thoughtful use of an existing community resource. We appreciate the dedication of USDA Rural Development throughout this project. Without their support, this project would not have occurred.”

As we complete the required state and regulatory approvals, not all services will be immediately available on site, including laboratory and imaging services. Availability will vary as services transition. Missouri Highlands Health Care looks forward to a smooth and positive transition and will keep patients and the public informed with regular updates in the coming weeks.

Missouri Highlands Health Care is a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center dedicated to providing high-quality, affordable health care to rural communities. We offer comprehensive

medical, dental, and behavioral health services, and so much more, to ensure everyone has access to the care they need, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. www.mohigh.org