

Our Journey Forward

May 4, 2026

Today we celebrate the addition of Olympia Fields Hospital into our Prime Healthcare family, as we continue building on a strong first year in Illinois. With our new member, we are now **nine hospitals strong across the state and 55 hospitals nationwide**. Together, we are expanding access, delivering high-quality care to our patients and bringing hope to our communities. Your dedication throughout this foundational time continues the legacy of compassionate care you have built in serving communities across Illinois.

Welcome to the Prime Family, Olympia Fields!



Great news! Following unanimous approval from the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, we are proud to officially welcome Olympia Fields Hospital into the Prime Healthcare family, effective May 1, 2026. With the

addition of Olympia Fields, we strengthen our presence in the South Suburbs and deepen our commitment to the communities we serve, building on a shared legacy of care while investing in the future of this hospital and the people who depend on it.

“ **We know that coming in to save and invest in distressed hospitals is a challenging business, but I’m impressed. You really do seem to be fulfilling the promises that you made to us back in 2024.**”

David Fox, Illinois Health Services Review Board member

“ **I think Illinois hospitals are fortunate to have you, Prime Health, enter our marketplace and be a player as we try to advance care.**”

Board Member Gary Kaatz

 **Prime Healthcare**
Saving hospitals. Saving jobs. Saving lives.

Investing in Lifesaving Care Beyond Hospital Walls

As part of our commitment to the communities we serve, Prime Healthcare continues to make meaningful investments that extend lifesaving care beyond the hospital. When the Sugar Grove Fire Department needed to update equipment up to current standards, **Mercy Medical Center-Aurora** was proud to commit \$15,000 to provide seven new AEDs as part of a proactive public health investment that strengthens the entire emergency response system. Together, Mercy Medical Center and the Sugar Grove Fire Department are working to ensure lifesaving tools like user-friendly AEDs are available when they are needed. An event was held April 14 at the Sugar Grove Fire Protection District in which Mercy Medical Center CEO Fernando Gruta and CNO Angela Ustupski presented the AEDs to Fire Chief

Brendan Moran. Also in attendance were the fire chief of the Big Rock Fire Protection District, local paramedic crews, community leaders, members of the Sugar Grove Park District, and clergy representing three local congregations.



“ **Thanks to Mercy, we are able to deploy these latest defibrillators with technology that is now much easier to use by laypeople -- it’s an investment in public health that strengthens and extends the entire emergency response system. It enables a bystander or passerby to instantly become a first responder and save a life.**”

Chief Brendan Moran, Sugar Grove Fire Protection District

Celebrating All That You Do

Nurses Week (May 6–12)

During Nurses Week, we proudly honor the extraordinary dedication, compassion, and clinical excellence our nurses bring to every patient, every day. In moments of uncertainty, healing, and hope, it is your skill, presence, and unwavering commitment that guide patients and families forward. You are at the heart of our mission — trusted caregivers, advocates, and leaders whose work defines the standard of care across our hospitals. We are deeply grateful for all that you do and for the profound difference you make in the lives of those we serve.

National Hospital Week (May 10-16)

During National Hospital Week, we celebrate the collective strength of our teams: the physicians, nurses, clinical professionals, and support staff who together create environments of healing, dignity, and trust. Each role, across every department, contributes to a shared purpose: delivering safe, high-quality care and ensuring our hospitals remain pillars of the communities we serve. It is through your collaboration, professionalism, and commitment to excellence that we are able to care for our patients not only with skill, but with compassion and respect. We are proud to recognize and thank each of you for the impact you make every day.



Kudos for Prime Illinois Hospitals

Congratulations to **Resurrection Medical Center-Chicago** on earning certification for its Cardiac Rehabilitation Program from the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR)! This distinction signals achieving excellence in quality, safety, and long-term heart recovery after cardiac events. It also is a recognition that Resurrection's team of healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, exercise specialists, and dietitians, work in concert and use best practices to help each person recover and build stronger long-term heart health.

Saint Francis Hospital-Evanston is engaged with its community to show that changing people's lives for the better can go beyond bedside care. Recently, the team at Saint Francis earned Platinum Level Recognition through the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Gift of Hope DoNation Campaign for their work in signing up community members for organ and tissue donations, including corneal donations that can restore sight. The Platinum is the campaign's highest level of recognition and exemplifies the energy and consistency behind the team's work to keep donation discussions as a part of everyday care.



Through its work with the Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative, **Saint Mary of Nazareth Hospital-Chicago** is proud to announce that it has surpassed both the Collaborative's target and the state average for reducing Caesarean deliveries, supporting more safe, healthy births. This achievement, along with the dedicated Obstetric Emergency Department located inside the Family Birthplace, are great examples of how the team at Saint Mary of Nazareth is committed to ensuring access to the right care at the right time for every mother and baby.

In the News

Shaw Local featured the one-year anniversary of Prime Illinois, highlighting enhanced clinical care and operations, modernized infrastructure, and expanded service lines, while preserving more than 13,000 hospital and healthcare jobs and creating over 1,000 new roles across eight hospitals. [Prime Healthcare invests \\$104M in 1st year in Illinois.](#)

Prime Illinois' unanimous approval from the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to officially confirm that **Olympia Fields is joining the Prime Illinois family**, was covered in the news and noted that "the 8-0 vote reflects confidence in Prime Healthcare's proven ability to strengthen hospitals, preserve access to care and deliver on commitments made to communities across Illinois." [Prime Healthcare moves forward on new acquisition](#)

The Daily Journal/Shaw Local also featured **St. Mary's Hospital-Kankakee** for its PRC 4-Star designation and Award of Distinction for Emergency Department care and ranking among the Top 25% nationally in the 2026 Excellence in Healthcare Awards. [St. Mary's Hospital earns national recognition for emergency care excellence](#)

Recognizing Our Associates

Saint Joseph Medical Center-Joliet caregivers recently made a meaningful difference for a patient who had been told by multiple providers that a below-the-knee amputation was the only remaining option. Rather than accepting that outcome as inevitable, general surgeon **Dr. R. K. Natesh** partnered with orthopedic specialists to look for another path forward. Together, the team performed procedures to remove damaged tissue and rebuild bone, and amputation was avoided. This whole health, patient-first approach is a hallmark of Saint Joseph's care, and both the patient and team are looking forward to the next steps!



During Medical Laboratory Professionals Week 2026, laboratory teams across Prime Illinois hospitals were celebrated for the essential role they play in patient care. These are the teams who help make accurate diagnoses possible and support timely treatment decisions, even though much of their work happens behind the scenes. Their skill, precision, and teamwork keep care moving across our hospitals and directly support the work of clinicians at the bedside. We are grateful to all our teams across Prime Illinois and are

glad to share some pictures of the celebrations at **Saint Mary of Nazareth Hospital-Chicago**, **Resurrection Medical Center-Chicago**, and **Saint Francis Hospital-Evanston**.



Pharmacists **Theodora Vattis** (below left) and **Emily Winter** (below right) were both honored with the Good Catch award at **Holy Family Medical Center-Des Plaines**. Theodora was given the award for her actions in ensuring electronic health record systems had proper oversight to ensure timely updates. Emily was given the award for her active role in ensuring medication continuity during a patient's hospital stay. Theodora and Emily's thoughtful teamwork are what makes Holy Family truly special, every day.



Volunteers are core to strengthening the connection between **Resurrection Medical Center-Chicago** and the community it serves, often shaping first impressions in moments when compassion and reassurance matter most. As the first faces many patients and visitors encounter, they help set the tone for a welcoming, supportive experience from the very start. **Karen Engel** (pictured left) and **Karen Izzo** (pictured right), recently named Volunteers of the Month for April, are a guiding presence for so many who walk through the doors. Through warm greetings, clear direction, and a calm, caring approach, they help visitors feel at ease during what can often be an uncertain time. Their kindness, patience, and daily presence reflect the vital role volunteers play and the deep value they bring to Resurrection Medical Center every day.



Community Corner

Hair loss can be one of the most visible and emotionally difficult parts of the cancer treatment journey, and its impact is very personal throughout treatment and recovery. At **Resurrection Medical Center's** Outpatient Oncology Department, a Wig Salon recently opened to support patients facing this experience, made possible through the tremendous generosity and donation of a cancer survivor, in partnership with the Cancer Wellness Center. Alongside support from the Cancer Wellness Center, volunteers, and care teams, the Salon provides a space where patients can be fitted with comfort, care, and dignity. The Cancer Wellness Center is glad to help connect patients to this resource, and referrals may be made by calling 847-509-9595.



A new health and wellness lecture series is being offered at **Saint Joseph Hospital-Elgin** to provide practical, everyday guidance on fitness, prevention, and healthy living for patients and the broader community. The series focuses on topics such as weight loss for heart health, starting or modifying an exercise routine, and the benefits of outdoor activity like hiking. The series is presented by **Enrique "Dr. Ric" Saguil, MD**, a family medicine, integrative and sports medicine physician who is the newest member of the **Prime Illinois Medical Group** at **Saint Joseph Hospital-Elgin**. His lecture also touches on other approaches to long-term wellness and is delivered through an interdisciplinary approach that brings together physicians, rehabilitation therapists, and dietitians to share perspectives on whole-person health.



Saint Francis Hospital-Evanston is proud to be a part of the PrimE-Academy Nurse Residency program, a 12-month program designed to support, strengthen, and mentor new nurses. At the conclusion of this residency program, Saint Francis marks the important occasion with a New Graduate Residency cohort celebration. Since earning the Nursing Magnet with Distinction™ designation, the talent acquisition team has seen a significant increase in new nurses interested in starting their careers at Saint Francis.

