



## Board of County Commissioners

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# McKinney Medical Center finds new home in Camden County

**WOODBINE, GEORGIA – May 26, 2015** – Thanks to the relentless efforts of Ola Smith, CEO of McKinney Medical Center and a member of the Georgia Association of Primary Health Care, and her team, we are proud to announce that the McKinney Medical Center is coming to Camden County. The McKinney Center will be located next to Camden County CASA (same site as DFCS and Gateway), across from Camden Middle School on Charles Gilman Drive. An opening date is slated for the middle of July.

Since August 2013, meetings have been held to discuss the opportunity to provide affordable health care to the citizens of Camden County. Locally, the County has invested a significant amount of time in bringing the McKinney Medical Center, Inc. (MMC) to Camden County after unanimous support was received for the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). McKinney Medical Centers are currently located in Ware, Brantley, Charlton, Bacon and Pierce counties.

FQHC's are community-based organizations that provide comprehensive primary and preventive care, including health, oral, and mental health/substance abuse services to persons of all ages, regardless of their health insurance status or ability to pay. FQHC's operate under a consumer Board of Directors governance structure and function under the supervision of the Health Resources Services and Administration (HRSA), which is part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). FQHC's were originally meant to provide comprehensive health services to the medically underserved, thereby reducing the patient load on hospital emergency rooms.

Their mission now is to enhance primary care services in underserved urban and rural communities. In particular, they serve underserved, underinsured, and uninsured Americans, including migrant workers and non-U.S. citizens.

*“Leadership that Listens”*

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STEVE L. HOWARD  
County Administrator

JOHN S. MYERS  
County Attorney

WILLIS R. KEENE JR.  
Commissioner, District 1

CHUCK CLARK  
Commissioner, District 2

JIMMY STARLINE  
Commissioner, District 3

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Commissioner, District 5

FQHC’s charge for services on a community board approved, sliding-fee scale that is based on a patient’s family income and size. In return for serving all patients, regardless of ability to pay, FQHC’s receive consideration from the Federal government in the form of a continuation grant, cost-based reimbursement for their Medicaid patients, and free malpractice coverage under the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA).

*“This is terrific news for the citizens of Camden County! Our Community will now have a new resource to access medical services needed to ensure a healthy and productive life,” said County Administrator Steve Howard. “We look forward to their grand opening.”*

*“It has been a pleasure working with the County Administrator (Mr. Steve Howard), Mrs. Mary Smith and a collective team of community agencies” stated Ms. Ola Smith. “This has been a long time coming but God always works things out for the good for those who wait. I look forward to seeing the Camden County community at your new Primary Care Medical Home (PCMH Accredited).”*

For additional information, please contact Camden County at 912.576.5601 or visit our website at [www.camdencountyga.gov](http://www.camdencountyga.gov).

**About Camden County:** Located in the extreme southeast corner of Georgia, Camden County truly is “Georgia’s Coastal Community of Choice.” Originally formed in 1777, Camden County is best known for its rich history, natural scenic beauty and Southern hospitality. Our mission is to deliver defined county services with exceptional customer service and in a financially sustainable and transparent manner.

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