

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New Surgical Waiting Area Dedicated at YRMC To be vital part of Cardiac Surgery Program in 2007

Prescott, AZ: A reception and brief ceremony was held at Yavapai Regional Medical Center on Tuesday, July 18 to dedicate a new surgical waiting area for the families of general surgery patients. The new waiting area will also serve those families of patients undergoing open-heart procedures when the hospital's Cardiac Surgery Program begins sometime in 2007. The Cardiac Surgery Program, an estimated ten million dollar investment for the hospital, will be housed in the newly redesigned surgical area consisting of six surgical suites, two specially equipped for cardiac surgeries.

"We are so pleased to partner with the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott in constructing this wonderful new space to provide even greater comfort to friends and loved ones of our general surgery patients now - and to families of our cardiac surgery patients next year," said hospital CEO Tim Barnett at the event. Funding for the waiting area came from The Foundation, through a generous gift from Lynn and Arlene Raskin of Prescott, who attended the dedication.

Also in attendance were; Joe Jackson, Chairman of the YRMC Foundation and member of the Board of Trustees; Harold Greenberg, President of the Jewish Community Foundation and Martin Gottlieb, Grants Committee Chairman; key management personnel at YRMC, and family and friends of the Raskins.

"To us, this surgical waiting area reflects the commitment to excellence that both Yavapai Regional Medical Center and the Jewish Community Foundation embrace," remarked Greenberg. "YRMC's new surgical suites are a vital addition to our fast-growing County. The expanded capacity for surgeries - and especially the capability to perform a full complement of cardiac surgical procedures right here in Prescott - will be a blessing to our local communities' citizens."

“While there’s been excellent cardiac care available locally for patients in our communities for many years - and literally hundreds of cardiac catheterization procedures have been successfully performed at YRMC in recent years - it will be only with the opening of the new cardiac surgery program that local patients will no longer need to travel to Phoenix for bypass and other open-heart surgeries,” added Barnett. “In our first full year of operation, we anticipate we’ll perform approximately two hundred open-heart procedures. We’re thrilled at the prospect of providing this new level of cardiac care, because it significantly reduces stress and additional expenses associated with long-distance medical care for both patients and their families during treatment and recovery.”

“We’re so happy that the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott was able to sponsor this waiting area project - and we’re especially grateful to the Raskin family for the gift that made it possible to create what we know will be a most comforting place to patients and their families,” added Gottlieb. “The addition of open-heart surgical services at YRMC to better serve our citizens is a true medical milestone for us all.”

For more information about YRMC’s coming cardiac surgery program, call 445-2700. To learn more about the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott and its planned giving programs, call 928-717-0016 or visit online at www.jcftp.org.

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