



North Lincoln  
Hospital Foundation



## **Case for Support:**

# **Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital Water Resiliency Project**

## **Ensuring life-saving care when it is needed most**

Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital, a recently constructed, seismically resilient facility in Lincoln City, Oregon, serves a vital role in the region's health care. The hospital is crucial to the health of approximately 25,000 residents, a population that can double on a busy weekend during tourist season due to the 5 million tourists who visit Lincoln County annually.

While built to withstand earthquakes, this hospital's continued operation following a disaster requires more than structural integrity. It demands uninterrupted access to clean water – a necessity for surgeries, wound care, sanitation, food preparation and the prevention of infections.

## **A critical need for water resilience in a high-risk geographic area**

The Pacific Northwest, and Lincoln City specifically, faces significant earthquake risks, particularly from the Cascadia Subduction Zone. This 700-mile fault, stretching from Northern California to British Columbia, has the potential to produce devastating earthquakes that can disrupt essential services and life-saving care. In Lincoln City, a Cascadia seismic event could result in severe water system damage, due to the area's complex, elevation-dependent water delivery infrastructure.

Aside from seismic risks, other events that could affect water supply to the hospital include water quality issues, wildfire, or a winter storm that causes outages for days. Lincoln City's water treatment plant, located on Schooner Creek, supplies the area through 135 miles of underground pipes and six power-dependent pump stations. The hospital, situated nearly six miles away from the treatment plant, relies on this vulnerable water system and currently has no adequate alternative source for clean water.

Given these challenges, Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital must prepare for prolonged service interruptions to local water, sewer, power and transportation systems. In the event of a disaster, reliable and local water solutions are essential for maintaining health care services, especially since external support may be delayed or inaccessible.

## **Project Vision: A collaborative solution for local water resilience**

The Water Resiliency Project is an innovative collaboration involving Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital, North Lincoln Health District, North Lincoln Hospital Foundation and Dig Deep Research, a leader in water funding solutions. Together we aim to secure funding for an independent, sustainable and clean water source for the hospital, ensuring that critical health care services can continue even if municipal water infrastructure fails.

By addressing this urgent need, the project will position the hospital to serve as a crucial community asset, providing stable health care in times of crisis. This project is an essential first step toward a larger disaster resilience vision, setting the stage to address other needs, such as emergency fuel, power, medical supplies and medication storage.

## **The Impact: Building a more resilient future**

By supporting the Water Resiliency Project, you are investing in a future where Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital can provide sanctuary and life-saving care, even in the direst circumstances.

This project exemplifies proactive planning and resilience. By developing a sustainable water source, the team is taking decisive action to ensure that this vitally important rural hospital can serve as a beacon of hope, even in the wake of a disaster. The goal is not only to enhance local health care resilience but to create a replicable model for other rural hospitals facing similar vulnerabilities.

## **Join us in building a lifeline**

Your support of the Water Resiliency Project is a pledge to protect the health and safety of our community and the countless visitors who pass through our area each year.

**Strength of structure alone cannot ensure that we fulfill our mission. We must secure access to the most essential resource: clean, safe water.**

In times of disaster, Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital must be more than a place of healing. Together, we can ensure that the hospital stands ready to serve in any emergency as a symbol of safety, resilience and survival for all who seek its care. Join us in this life-affirming work.