Who are we?

- 25-bed community hospital
- County Owned
- Hospital Authority Governed
- Managed by ERH Healthcare
What do we do?

- Inpatient Medical
- Intensive Care Unit
- Swingbed Rehabilitation
- Outpatient Services
- Outpatient Surgery
- Emergency Room
- Primary Care
Why do we do it?

• Rural residents deserve quality healthcare close to home.
• We can offer care as good or better than our neighbors.
• Economic catalyst for the community
• Our patients need us
Challenges

- $1.6 Million in indigent and charity care
- County Population – 11,000
- Median Income - $30,000
- GA Median Inc - $46,007
Challenges, continued...

- Legacy Debt
- Aging Facility and Equipment
- Payer Contracts
- Provider Recruitment
Competition

• East Georgia Regional Medical Center – Statesboro
  • For profit hospital

• Meadows Regional Medical Center – Vidalia
  • Community funded new hospital

• Optim Medical Center – Reidsville
  • For profit health system
Collaborations

Dorminy Medical Center
Emanuel Medical Center
Irwin County Hospital
East Georgia Regional Medical Center
Archway Partnership
University of Georgia

Candler County Board of Commissioners

David Robinson, District 3 • Dorey Wells, District 4 • Ulym Thrift, Chairman • Brad Jones, District 2

7-Member Appointed Board
Hospital Authority of Candler County
Failures

- Failure to address insufficient Medicaid reimbursement – 20% of allowable charges.
- SB 258 is an indirect, short term, stop-gap measure - needs to be a 100% credit.
- Support for growing indigent care costs – ICTF needs to cover a larger percentage of costs.
- No effective restructure plan – e.g. Free-Standing Emergency Rooms.
- Delays in UPL payments.
- Provider Tax.
Successes

New Surgical Equipment
Patient Room Renovation
Physician Recruitment
Physical Therapy Updates
Information Systems Upgrades
Plant Equipment Upgrades
Debt Reduction
Successes, continued…

• Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program
• Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Loan Repayment Program
• Newborn/OB Add on Payments
• Rural Hospital Stabilization Grants
CCH Successes

- ERH Shared Services
- BCBS Contract Negotiation
- Upgrades to Equipment
- Swingbed Rehabilitation Program
- Growth of Specialty Care
Recommendations

• Preservation of Indigent Care Trust Fund
• Medicaid Payment Increases
• Rural Hospital Tax Credit Change
• Physician Incentives
• Collaboration Incentives