

Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center

Those who have lived in this community for some time have heard all the stories about the impossibility of opening a full time medical center in Teller County. We remember the clinic in Cripple Creek closing and Langstaff Brown cutting their hours drastically, to help them avoid the unpaid bills of gamblers injured while traveling up and down the pass. We've heard all the pie in the sky plans for this facility or that complex.

Now, with the assistance of CC&V, it seems that a regional medical center will be built, and very soon. The Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center is set to break ground on their state of the art, 25-bed acute care hospital this fall. The center will open its doors in 2004.

The site is located west of Woodland Park on Highway 67, about 1/3 of the way down Bluebird Hill. The site was donated to the Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center Association in 2001. Work began on site infrastructure in 2002. Sewer and water improvements under Trout Creek Road were completed, and water and sewer service to the site was completed in March of 2003. Flight for Life has completed a site survey and analysis and given full approval for the site.

Funding has come from a variety of sources. The Gold Camp Development Corporation has donated \$10,000. CC&V has donated \$75,000. The CC&V donation was used as matching funds for Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance (EMIA) Grants totaling \$250,000. The Medical Center will have another EMIA grant request hearing at the end of July. Financing for the construction of the facility will come in the form of HUD guaranteed loans. With favorable interest rates, the facility may be profitable in its first year!

Information on the Pikes Peak Regional Medical Center can be found at www.pprmc.org, or call them at 719.686-0302.