

John Zidansek
Comments – Sharon Regional Health System Major Economic Development
Announcement
LindenPointe Innovative Business Campus
June 23, 2010

I would like to begin by recognizing the incredible efforts of Senator Bob Robbins and Representative Mark Longietti, along with Gary Hinkson and Gary Gula from the city of Hermitage.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Medical Staff, management team, nursing personnel, technicians and the entire Sharon Regional family, thank you for your strong support of our mission of service to the community.

The timing of this grant is perfect as Sharon Regional recently completed the development of a multi-year information technology strategic plan. A plan designed to give both patients and physicians seamless and user friendly access to electronic medical records and health data.

This \$1 million grant provides the launching point for our journey to begin.

Sharon Regional plans to construct a 5,000 square foot technology center on Lot 19B, adjacent to this Training and Workforce Development Center and the site of the future Technology Center of Excellence Incubator Facility.

The new technology center will house all of Sharon Regional's information technology components for our main campus at 740 East State Street in Sharon as well as our 19 satellite medical facilities throughout Mercer County and eastern Ohio. The proximity of our new technology center to the Training and Workforce Development Center will enable us to take advantage of all of the Training facilities and programs provided here.

Sharon Regional's new technology center will house the most advanced equipment and technology available for electronic medical records, data storage and other information technology applications. The Health System will relocate its entire IT Department to the new center and we plan to add 10 new technology jobs as the long term IT Strategic Plan is implemented.

Another benefit of the project is the availability of space for new and expanded clinical programs, new clinical specialists, and other support services at the main hospital after the relocation of our IT Department to the new technology center.

The Mission of Sharon Regional is to improve the health status of the communities that we serve through the provision of the highest quality, advanced services to our patients and physicians.

As we focus on our mission, our community also benefits greatly from our economic ripple effect as Mercer County's largest employer with more than

1,750 employees. Sharon Regional contributes more than \$260 million annually to the area's economy, according to a recent HAP report.