

BJC HealthCare and Saint Luke's Health System Sign Letter of Intent to Form Integrated Missouri-based Health System

[FAQ](#)

1. What was announced?

- BJC HealthCare (“BJC”) and Saint Luke’s Health System (“Saint Luke’s”) have signed a non-binding letter of intent to form an integrated, academic Missouri-based health system to provide extraordinary care for more than six million residents in Missouri and beyond.

2. What are the next steps in the process? When will changes come into effect?

- Nothing changes today for BJC and Saint Luke’s.
- The organizations expect to reach a Definitive Agreement in the coming months. The agreement is subject to regulatory review and the receipt of customary approvals. Final closing, subject to approvals, is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2023.

3. Are BJC and Saint Luke’s going to continue to support the existing community benefit programs?

- Yes. BJC and Saint Luke’s are fully committed to maintaining the community benefit programs currently in place and will continue engaging meaningfully with our communities in the years to come.

4. What is the rationale for this agreement?

- Amid a rapidly evolving health care industry post-pandemic, BJC and Saint Luke’s asked what they could do together to improve health care for Missourians and the other communities they serve both today and well into the future.
- We have an opportunity to become a patient-first regional health care system with resources to innovate and more effectively improve the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve.
- Together, we can advance our shared mission to improve population health and expand access to extraordinary patient care, with a best-in-class integrated model to attract, retain and train exceptional talent.

5. How is this going to improve health outcomes for our respective communities?

- The integrated, academic health system will advance medical breakthroughs by expanding access to clinical trials and accelerating innovation in patient care with the goal of improving the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve.
- BJC and Saint Luke’s will better serve Missouri and surrounding communities by integrating their respective strengths in research, education and clinical care excellence.
- Ultimately, this will mean access to services and providers led by a nationally renowned patient-first health care system with increased capacity to invest in our teams, facilities and capabilities.

6. Are both BJC and Saint Luke’s going to retain their names and branding?

- Upon closing, the integrated health system will continue to serve BJC and Saint Luke’s distinct markets, maintain their existing brands and operate from dual headquarters—one in St. Louis serving eastern Missouri and southern Illinois, and one in Kansas City serving western Missouri and portions of Kansas.

7. What would this integration mean for patients?

- This announcement creates an opportunity to serve patients as we do today – only better.
- While this has exciting long-term benefits for our health system, BJC and Saint Luke's will continue to serve their respective markets and all hospitals, clinics and facilities will continue their day-to-day operations as usual. Patients will see no interruption in care or changes to their current providers.
- Ultimately, we expect to further develop innovative models of care, such as the expansion of virtual health capabilities or alternative care sites.

8. Will there be any facility closures as the systems come together?

- We intend to maintain our current facilities across Missouri, Kansas and Illinois, including those in our critical access markets.
- We seek to advance health, strengthen communities and transform the delivery of care which will take the efforts of all of BJC's and Saint Luke's' physicians, clinical staff including nurses, support staff and administrative staff.