

Funds secured for Holton hospital expansion project

**(KNZA)--Funds have been secured for an expansion and renovation project at Holton Community Hospital.**

**According to a press release from the hospital, the hospital has been approved to move forward with an USDA loan to fund the project.**

**Holton Community Hospital CEO Carrie Saia says its a very exciting time for the hospital, adding they are working with their USDA representative in Topeka to take the next steps.**

**The release says the partnership with USDA has been a long process with the hospital conducting multiple studies and surveys including a financial feasibility study.**

**Rural Health Resources of Jackson County Board President Bobbie McGrath says USDA feels confident in the hospital's ability to fulfill their financial responsibility for the project.**

**The release says the \$17.6 million project will be funded mostly through the low-interest USDA loan with some funding being secured locally.**

**The hospital board and Holton Community Foundation Board recently hired Denver-based Harvey Nonprofit Development to conduct an educational and fundraising feasibility study for the hospital.**

**Harvey Nonprofit Development CEO Ari Hunniford presented the findings of the confidential study to the Boards last week.**

**The Boards voted unanimously to hire Hunniford and her firm to implement an educational and capital campaign.**

**The release says Hunniford has worked with many rural Kansas hospitals including Smith County Memorial Hospital, which opened a brand new facility this summer, and Rawlins County Health Center.**