

“Once you commit to becoming a trauma center, the entire hospital is involved. It becomes an institutional game changer.”

Becoming a Level II Trauma Center ensures life-threatening situations will no longer require being transferred more than an hour outside our hospital system to an existing trauma center.

When responding to trauma cases, a “golden hour for treatment” exists. The majority of trauma deaths happen within the first hour after injury. Structure for rapid treatment significantly impacts patient outcomes. System wide, every two to three days, a trauma patient is received at a Penn Highlands DuBois. These cases are comprised of multi-trauma injuries along with complex orthopedic issues. With the addition of the trauma center to Penn Highlands DuBois, any and all subspecialties can be called upon with immediate availability, including; cardiology, nephrology, pulmonology, obstetrics, gynecology. Penn Highlands DuBois with the addition of the trauma center will treat approximately 300 additional patients per year with trauma injuries. These are patients who otherwise would be transferred out of the system to an existing trauma center if not for creating one here, close to home.

“The trauma center is the entire hospital. It is not just the emergency department. Everything changes with having a trauma center from top to bottom, with every staff member of the hospital. The level of care is upgraded across the board—improvement, elevated, all around. Bringing on resources and changing the way we do things will be reflected across all subspecialties. Once you commit to becoming a trauma center, the entire hospital is involved. It becomes an institutional game changer.”

“Keeping people close to home provides quality care without sending the patient to another location. This is based on the idea that preventable trauma deaths generally occur in the first one to two hours. Hemorrhagic shock or traumatic brain injury are the biggest two. They need to be in the right place at the right time. Having a blood bank, operating room and staff immediately available can help preventable trauma deaths.”

—William S. Hoff, MD, FACS
Trauma Program Medical Director and Trauma/General Surgeon, Penn Highlands DuBois



PENN HIGHLANDS TRAUMA CENTER

At Penn Highlands Healthcare, we’re here for you...but we can’t grow without you. We need to keep exceptional healthcare close to home to strengthen this community for the future. As this transformation progresses, the investment we all make matters. Today, this is our healthcare. Tomorrow, this is our legacy.

We invite you to join us in this investment, growing our care and excellence to new heights. There are many ways to support this transformation. Contact the Fund Development Department at Penn Highlands Healthcare to learn how.



CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

Growing our footprint. Here. Here for you.

**PENN HIGHLANDS HEALTHCARE
FUND DEVELOPMENT**
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www.phhealthcare.org/donate



CASE *for*
SUPPORT



PENN HIGHLANDS HEALTHCARE
Here. Here for you.

The neurology department at Penn Highlands provides a special interest and expertise in complex brain tumors as well as spine procedures, compression fractures, spinal stenosis, herniated disc, spinal slippage, spinal cord tumors, compression fractures, carpal tunnel syndrome as well as peripheral nerve and surgical pain procedures. The addition of this specialty complements the existing resources at Penn Highlands and provides local patients with a tertiary level of neurosurgical care close to home. The addition of Dr. Bejjani to the staff of Penn Highlands was also a key component of the application for a level II accredited trauma center at the DuBois campus.



“Growing up my brother tore his ACL in high school and had to go to a Pittsburgh hospital for treatment. Advancements in sports medicine for athletes today has vastly changed. Now Penn Highlands has a high volume ACL reconstruction center where today’s athletes can get care close to home and not have to travel outside the system hours away. Local athletes have cutting edge treatment comparable to the treatment available to professional athletes.”

Many procedures done here cannot be found anywhere around our area. We seek better and quicker results. I see patients now from two to three hours away, with some seeking a second opinion by coming here to Penn Highlands.”

—Matthew A. Varacallo, MD
Penn Highlands Orthopedics and Sports Medicine

Dr. Matt Varacallo, a native of DuBois, works alongside his brother Dr. Christopher Varacallo as part of the Penn Highlands Orthopedics and Sports Medicine team. Varacallo sees a wide variety of patient injuries while also treating athletes in many of the region’s school districts including DuBois, Brockway, Brookville, Clearfield and St. Marys. Growing up as an athlete in the area, Dr. Varacallo says he did not have access to the type of care, specifically sports injuries, that athletes here now have available.

NEUROLOGY

“Penn Highlands Healthcare is thriving, committed, and here for community care, so care can stay close to home.”

Penn Highlands Healthcare provides high quality, accessible care to the residents of our region:

- Trauma/Emergency Department
- Behavioral Health Unit
- The Heart Center & Cardiopulmonary Services
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Outpatient Surgery
- Obstetrics/Gynecology & Women’s Center for Excellence
- Advanced Orthopedic Services
- Senior Care
- Pediatrics

“It takes on average 4-5 hours to get a patient to Pittsburgh, after receiving the patient, stabilizing, calling for transport and sending them to another facility. That’s a lot of time, when you could have someone available immediately here. We have Route 80, a major US highway through our region. Lots of accidents happen there. Urgent conditions can’t wait for transfer. Having Penn Highlands here makes a difference between life and death.”

The administration at Penn Highlands Healthcare brought in expertise and we can do complex tumors here, not otherwise available in our region. A lot of expertise is here. We have an amazing oncology department well, top notch team and I work closely with them.”

—Ghassan Bejjani, MD
Penn Highlands Neurology and Neurosurgery

“This is an unprecedented time to invest in Penn Highlands Healthcare. There is a tremendous amount of momentum...”



ORTHOPEDICS

...we are turning the culture around to remind patients it is safe to stay here. It is cutting edge here. Doctors from outside the area are sending patients here, and that is validating. We are putting Penn Highlands on the map for orthopedics.”

8 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTERS

LUNG CENTER 1

6H Hospitals

8 QCare Walk-in Clinics

2 MATERNAL & CHILD CENTERS

2 Home Health AGENCIES

CANCER 2 Treatment Centers

6 Emergency ROOMS



34 County Service Area
24,806 Square Miles

18 IMAGING LOCATIONS

20 Outpatient THERAPY LOCATIONS

HEART CENTER 1

24 LAB Collection Sites

BRAIN AND SPINE CENTER 1

1 SURGERY Centers

Long-Term Care Facilities 2

