



## **WELLSTAR WEST GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER ANNOUNCES OPENING OF FULLY RENOVATED ENOCH CALLAWAY CANCER CENTER**

*Center provides state-of-the-art cancer services in one location*

**LAGRANGE, GA** (November 6, 2020) — Wellstar Health System, one of Georgia’s largest and most integrated healthcare systems, announces the newly renovated Enoch Callaway Cancer Center (ECCC) at Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center in LaGrange. The center was unveiled at a live-streamed ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 6 to celebrate the official opening and community impact.



The ECCC has been delivering expert cancer care for West Georgia and East Alabama residents since 1975. Following a \$25 million renovation and consolidation of all cancer services in one location, the center is re-opening to patients on November 9, 2020. The ECCC now offers the community and surrounding areas a state-of-the-art facility with world-class expertise, treatment, and medical support in a beautiful setting.

The newly expanded and enhanced 40,000 square foot ECCC at Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center – made possible by the generous donations of Callaway Foundation and local businesses, residents, and team members - is fully equipped to provide patients with the effective, efficient, and compassionate cancer care they need and deserve, all in one convenient location. This includes expanded patient spaces and services, leading cancer treatment technology and expertise, support from the community’s best and brightest healthcare professionals, as well as integrated procedures based on best practices from across the Wellstar Health System and the healthcare industry.

The ECCC offers four main types of treatment for patient-centric, innovative cancer care: chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radiation therapy, and surgery. Following the renovation, it also now features a new \$5 million linear accelerator in addition to the advanced radiation therapy and targeting software previously available. The ECCC program has been accredited by Commission on Cancer since 1992. Only 1,500 of 5,000 hospitals where patients receive cancer care are accredited through the Commission on Cancer.

“The newly renovated Enoch Callaway Cancer Center allows us to provide compassionate, comprehensive cancer care, support, and education, all under one roof,” said Wellstar West Georgia President Coleman Foss. “With our expansive facility, advanced treatment options, and expert oncology team, we’re able to serve our patients better than ever before, providing healing and hope for cancer patients in a convenient location. We are so thankful to the Callaway Foundation, our team members and volunteers, and all the individuals and businesses who have supported this effort. In addition, we appreciate Batson-Cook for the incredible work they’ve done in constructing this new beautiful cancer center that will serve our community for years to come.”

Special features of the ECCC at Wellstar West Georgia Medical Center include:

- New \$5 million linear accelerator in addition to the advanced radiation therapy and targeting software previously available
- Additional diagnostic technologies and individualized chemotherapy solutions
- More patient exam rooms for Radiation Oncology
- Expansion of Medical Oncology's practice suite
- In-house pharmacy for chemotherapy preparation
- Boutique filled with wigs and other items for cancer patients
- Resource Center to learn about cancer, which includes a Children's Corner with age-appropriate information, technologies, and special programs to help children deal with a family member's diagnosis of cancer
- Chapel and public meeting space for support groups, community outreach activities, and complimentary therapies such as therapeutic exercise and guided artistic expression classes

The ECCC Oncology Services program is led by Dr. Robert Taylor, Dr. Venu Thirukonda, and Dr. Jennifer Carter. Using stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic ablative radiotherapy with other complementary technologies, Dr. Taylor and his team have the ability to destroy brain, lung, and other tumors without any cutting, anesthesia, or recovery normally associated with an operation. Advancements like these, along with the new facility and expert care team, continue to build on the vision first established by renowned oncologist Dr. Enoch Callaway, Jr.

For more information on the Enoch Callaway Cancer Center, go to [wellstar.org/westgacancer](http://wellstar.org/westgacancer) or call 706-812-2191.

#### **ABOUT ENOCH CALLAWAY**

In 1938, Dr. Enoch Callaway Jr. started a cancer clinic at what was then City-County Hospital (now West Georgia Medical Center) after losing his two-year-old daughter to sarcoma. He became recognized as an early leader in cancer care in Georgia and the United States, and the original Enoch Callaway Cancer Center was dedicated in his name in 1975. Today, his legacy continues through the world-class cancer care offered to West Georgia and East Alabama residents, close to home at the Enoch Callaway Cancer Center. The Enoch Callaway Cancer Center program has been accredited by Commission on Cancer since 1992, and has earned commendations for its cancer staging, patient guidelines, cancer prevention and early detection programs, as well as cancer registry staff education, performance improvements and annual report. Accreditation ensures that patients have access to comprehensive care, including a range of state-of-the-art services and equipment; a multi-specialty team approach to coordinate the best treatment options; information about ongoing clinical trials and new treatment options; access to cancer-related information, education and support; a cancer registry that collects data on types and stages of cancers; treatment results and lifelong patient follow-up; and ongoing monitoring and improvement of care.

#### **ABOUT WELLSTAR HEALTH SYSTEM**

At Wellstar, people are at the center of everything we do. By listening actively to what people want, need and expect from their healthcare, Wellstar is able to provide "More than Healthcare. PeopleCare." — at every age and stage. Nationally ranked and locally recognized for our personal, high-quality care, inclusive culture, and exceptional doctors and team members, Wellstar provides access to compassionate, high-quality care through our: 11 hospitals; 300+ medical office locations; 9 cancer centers; 74 rehabilitation centers; 3 hospice facilities; 1 retirement village; 29 imaging centers; 16 urgent care locations; and 5 health parks. As one of the largest and most integrated healthcare systems in Georgia, Wellstar is growing our services, footprint, capabilities, and ability to meet evolving patient needs. Our passion for people extends into the communities we serve. As a not-for-profit health system, we thoughtfully reinvest annually in prevention and wellness programs, as well as charity care for eligible patients. Our Wellstar Foundation also supports our mission to enhance the health and well-being of every person we serve with funding for equipment, services, and programs that provide more than healthcare. To learn more about how Wellstar is always listening, learning, and tailoring care to meet patients' individual needs, visit [wellstar.org](http://wellstar.org).