

## Center for Health Sciences expands educational opportunities

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**Hughesville, MD** -- The College of Southern Maryland's new Center for Health Sciences at the college's Regional Hughesville Campus will expand educational opportunities for students in Southern Maryland.

Regional leaders, health care providers, College of Southern Maryland officials, and guests were on hand for a groundbreaking at the Hughesville Campus on August 27.

The center – projected to be completed in March 2021 – will be approximately 50,000 square feet and will feature specialized health sciences laboratories for CSM's programs in nursing, emergency medical services, rehabilitation, wellness and fitness, massage therapy, pharmacy technician, medical assisting, health information management and medical coding, and medical laboratory technology.

"The college has been offering practical nursing training since 1975, and this year, 2019," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy, "represents the 40th anniversary of the college's associate degree in nursing program. We look forward to continuing this strong tradition and to train our health care workers well into the future within this space at the Regional Hughesville Campus. The Center for Health Sciences will be regional in nature, central in location, and accessible for all whom we serve."

According to CSM Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Eileen Abel, the new center will encompass degree programs like nursing, emergency medical services, rehabilitation, wellness and fitness, massage therapy, pharmacy technician, medical assisting, health information management and medical coding, and medical laboratory technology.

"The Health Pathway at CSM offers such an extensive choice of medical training for a number of different careers," said Abel. "Some health care professionals such as nurses, health information managers, and medical laboratory technicians can expect to get started in their careers after two years; others like medical assistants, pharmacy technicians, and phlebotomists can become certified in a matter of weeks or months. It is for these students that this health pathway has been designed."

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