

Southeast Baptist Hospital replacement groundbreaking ceremony is largest in San Antonio history

December 7, 2010 ▪ [San Antonio Headlines Examiner](#) ▪ Jack Dennis

Construction of a new facility on the campus of Brooks City-Base to replace Southeast Baptist Hospital will begin in January 2010, with opening expected in June 2011.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for a new hospital have been set for Saturday, January 16, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. The south side community is invited to bring shovels to join in on the largest community groundbreaking event in San Antonio history. A health fair will be part of the event.

"Building a new hospital is exciting and I hope all of our neighbors will bring their shovels and participate in this historic ground breaking event for San Antonio," said Andy Harris, President of Southeast Baptist Hospital.

Southeast Baptist Hospital opened in 1971, and is the only hospital in the southeast quadrant of San Antonio.

South side residents and employees are invited to participate in the ceremonial turning of the first earth on the new hospital's location. Community and civic leaders, hospital staff, elected officials, and Bexar County residents will share in the ceremony. A panoramic Goldbeck photograph will commemorate the event.

"Hospitals and the provision of healthcare are changing dramatically, and so we have given careful thought to how this hospital will serve the future needs of patients," said Graham Reeve, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Baptist Health System. "We won't be simply duplicating service ability of the current hospital, but will design and staff the new hospital to meet the developing health and wellness needs in our community."

The new hospital's name will be unveiled at the event.

"The modern development of Brooks City-Base with the shopping centers and up-scale residential neighborhoods has been quite a boon to the Southside," said long time Southside resident Tommy Thompson. "A new state-of-the-art hospital to replace Southeast Baptist Hospital will just be icing on the cake."

The Baptist Health System, founded by doctors in San Antonio in 1903, was purchased by Vanguard Health Systems in 2003. Proceeds of the system's sale were used to establish the Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio. The Foundation funds not-for-profit healthcare services and education throughout South Texas.

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