

Southwest Healthcare Services successfully recruited an internal medicine physician, Dr. Matthew Feller, in the fall of 2018. And we also recruited another family medicine physician, Dr. William Arban, a process that started late in the spring of 2019. We also brought on another visiting specialist to serve our community. Dr. Emmitt McEleny is our visiting orthopedic specialist that visits us once every month.

In summer of 2017 residents of Bowman were provided access to mental health treatment through our telemedicine services. With this service, we can connect patients and residents with necessary mental health treatment via video conference. As awareness of this service has grown, so has the traffic of those patients seeking mental health treatment. This telemedicine service also played a role in working towards our third area of need, alcohol and drug abuse. Those who need treatment can come and utilize the telehealth services.

Our fourth need from our 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment. This is one of the most difficult hurdles facing rural health care today. To start working through this issue though, we have implemented sign-on bonuses for certain positions. The amount depends on the position of hire. We have also implemented referral bonuses for our current employees. Along with these bonuses our CEO serves on the Economic Development Corporation board of directors. This allows an exchange of ideas from inside our facility and from people who work outside and who have made improving the lives of the community their careers.