

50 Projects – 50 States: Arkansas

NMTC Allocatee

**Enterprise Corporation of the Delta
Jackson, MS
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Community Profile

- 12.5% unemployment rate
- 23% poverty rate



Project Highlights

- Real Estate: Hospital
- Total Project Cost: \$12.9 million
- NMTC: \$2.25 million
- Other Financing: M&F Bank, Simmons Bank, Union Bank, and Partners for the Common Good
- Jobs: 141 retained, 9 new

Delta Memorial Hospital Dumas, AR

In the Arkansas Delta, the Delta Memorial Hospital in Dumas has a long history of providing quality health care services to rural, low-income, and uninsured patients. Over time, local leaders recognized the challenges facing their small, not-for-profit hospital. Facilities were outdated, cutting-edge equipment was lacking, and patient capacity needed to be increased or the hospital would have to close.

Since the next nearest medical facility is more than 45 miles away, closing the hospital would have been devastating to the people of Desha County and the surrounding region. Despite the area's economic hardships, the community rallied behind their hospital, passing a \$9.9 million bond measure to pay for a new building and upgraded medical equipment.

Construction began, but the \$9.9 million was not enough to finish the job. That's when community leaders and local bankers called on Enterprise Corporation of the Delta (ECD) and Hope Community Credit Union (HOPE). In order to complete financing, ECD, the CDE, offered a NMTC initial loan of \$2.25 million. Working with Merchants & Farmers Bank, Simmons National Bank, and Union Bank & Trust, ECD/HOPE closed a \$1.69 million loan for the completion of the new hospital.

When the new Delta Memorial opened its doors in 2006, patients had new access to the latest in radiology and gastrology equipment, plus much-improved specialty clinics for urology, oncology, pulmonology, and sleep disorders. A testament to the importance of Delta Memorial Hospital came soon after its re-opening, when a fierce tornado ripped through Dumas, laying waste to much of the town. Dozens of injured residents were rushed to Delta Memorial's new emergency room for treatment. While much of the county suffered power outages, Delta Memorial remained in full operation thanks to new back-up generators. The Hospital also provided critical communication links when other communications systems failed.

Says James "Jim" Fairchild, CEO of Delta Memorial, "But I can also tell you beyond a shadow of a doubt, if it were not for the new medical facilities and equipment at Delta Memorial Hospital, we would have had a much greater tragedy that day."