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Nicole Foy
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Saint Alphonsus in early talks to donate location for 2C crisis center

Saint Alphonsus is in early discussions with Southwest District Health and the Region 3 planning committee about donating a building for a planned mental health crisis center in Canyon County.

“We are in discussions with them about a donated location with the crisis center,” said Nikole Zogg, director of Southwest District Health and a member of the Region 3 planning committee. Zogg would not confirm whether the property in discussion was the former hospital building on 12th Avenue Road in Nampa.

In Canyon County’s monthly elected officials meeting on Monday morning, county commissioner Tom Dale said the hospitals are very supportive of the planned Region 3 crisis center in Canyon County. The behavioral health centers would provide an alternative for those experiencing a mental health crisis who would otherwise go to an emergency room or jail cell.

“Saint Alphonsus is actually committed to donate a building to this — and it’s a very fine, large building, more space than we need at this point,” Dale said in the Monday meeting.

In a follow-up interview with the Idaho Press-Tribune, Dale clarified that the donation was not finalized, saying the crisis center committee was in the final stages of solidifying a building donation for use by the crisis center.

Saint Alphonsus built a new hospital at Interstate 84 and Garrity Boulevard to replace the older facility on 12th Avenue Road in 2017. The hospital previously offered the site to both the state and the Nampa School District. The school district eventually declined the offer after determining it would be too costly to operate. A discovery report paid for by the Nampa School District found that the building renovation would require about \$100,000 in asbestos removal.

Saint Alphonsus spokesman Josh Schlaich said the hospital was in early discussions with several local organizations regarding the former hospital building on 12th Avenue in Nampa. Schlaich could not confirm whether the property was offered as a location for the potential Region 3 Crisis Center.

“We are talking with a multitude of different community organizations,” Schlaich said. “The space should be utilized to give back to the community.”

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