

KCMH

Grace S.

Working as an ARNP for the past 10 years at Greensburg Family Practice and Kiowa County Memorial Hospital (KCMH), Jonell S. has dedicated her life to serving the community as a family health care provider. Due to the complete destruction of Greensburg in the 2007 twister, the hospital is in construction on their brand new facility. Grace sat down with Jonell to ask a few questions about the new building and its features.

“It is a LEED certified health care facility that will house not only the hospital but clinic, day-care, and wellness center. There’s also space for a retail pharmacy,” Jonell stated.

“What exactly does LEED stand for?” Grace continued

“Leadership and Environmental Energy Design. It means it is powered with wind energy, solar energy, and conservation energy components,” Jonell clarified. “In other words, the cost of supplying power to the facility will be reduced considerably. Some of the features are natural light, reduced water toilets and sinks, and wind turbine generation.”

Grace then asked, “When did you decide that you were going to take the “green” approach to rebuild the facility?”

“The decision was made by the hospital board and administration, but they informed us of the decision sometime before the one year anniversary of the tornado,” said Jonell.

“How does the physical design of the building differ from the previous hospital?”

“I wasn’t convinced this modern design was the right way to go, but after touring the new facility several times, I can honestly say that it is absolutely beautiful!” she exclaimed. She also added, “We will also have state-of-the-art equipment.”

“So will there be some of the same services offered in the new building that there were in the last,” Grace questioned, “and will there be any new additions to health-care in the new KCMH?”

Jonell was enthusiastic to say, “Yes! There is an area that is designed specifically for out-patient care, meaning eye and vision care, dental services, and other specialized physician visits.”

Grace then asked, “You said that there was a space for a pharmacy. Does that mean that the people of Kiowa County be able to fill prescriptions in the town?”

“I honestly hope so; we’re actively searching and recruiting efforts to bring a pharmacist here permanently,” she informed her.

Jonell then concluded in telling us that there was not a definite date set up for opening but it is said to be done this spring. She also added that the building most definitely won’t let anyone down, and that it is more beautiful than she ever hoped it would be.

**Note: Since this interview was written, the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital has opened. Its Open House is scheduled for March 12 at 1:30 p. m.