

## **AdventHealth Ottawa – OB Program Update**

AdventHealth Ottawa is committed to providing high quality labor and delivery care to Franklin County residents and the surrounding region. We appreciate our partners at Ottawa Family Physicians (OFP) who – as a local family physician group – have long provided local inpatient labor and delivery care in addition to prenatal, postnatal and newborn care services.

On May 9, 2023, OFP provided a six-month advance notice of the inability to provide the 24/7 coverage needed for deliveries. Since then, our teams have been diligently working to identify a solution, including deliberate efforts to recruit physicians with the necessary training to help provide these services. Our search continues but has not yet been successful.

As a result, labor and delivery services will pause at AdventHealth Ottawa beginning on November 9, 2023. We hope to reopen birth services at AdventHealth Ottawa by as early as summer 2024 and are pursuing a variety of options for inpatient 24/7 birth coverage. OFP physicians will be welcome to again provide labor and delivery care when birth services resume at the hospital.

Expecting mothers who were planning to deliver at AdventHealth Ottawa after November 9 should contact their physician to make alternate delivery plans. Impacted AdventHealth team members will have opportunities in other departments or at other AdventHealth Kansas hospitals, with the intention that they could return to the AdventHealth Ottawa Family Birth Place once physician coverage is secured.

OFP will continue to provide early prenatal care, postnatal care, and newborn care locally.

We are proud of our longstanding partnership to be the birthplace of many Franklin County residents. We are sorry to the mothers and families impacted by this pause in services and will do all we can to ensure births resume at AdventHealth Ottawa soon. We will continue to provide updates as this process evolves.