1944: Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce hospital planning committee formed.
1945: Present 8.3-acre hospital building site acquired and donated by Fred Rosenberg.
1946: City officials cite a modern hospital as the City’s #1 priority.
1946: Petaluma Hospital District formed.
1948: Groundbreaking for SRMH; community raises $355,000 in donations.
1949: Sr. Mary Alma and Sr. Rita Rudolph (first administrator) arrive to plan hospital.
1949: Cornerstone laid; Archbishop Mitty dedicates hospital.
1950: SRMH opens on New Year’s day with 90 beds, 12 patients, and 93 employees.
1950: First patient is Janet Butz; first baby born is Sally Callori; private room rate is $15/day.
1950: Executive Committee led by Dr. J. Donald Francis organizes a medical Staff.
1953: Sr. Mary Ligori appointed as Administrator.
1953: SRMH receives accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.
1955: SRMH Hospital Auxiliary established; Mrs. Donald Carrithers is president.
1957: Campaign headed by Henry Trione begins for a new wing to increase capacity to 150 beds.
1957: Campaign raises $343,000 toward cost of $1.1 million.
1957: Hillcrest Hospital opens in Petaluma with 50 beds.
1959: Sr. John Joseph (Later called Frances Dunn) appointed as Administrator.
1962: Lucile and Paul B. Kelly Cardiopulmonary Institute opens on the SRMH campus.
1962: Construction of 60-bed East Wing at SRMH.
1964: Rone Hospital (forerunner of North Coast Health Care Centers) opens.
1965: Expansion of SRMH Pediatric unit from 12 to 22 beds.
1965: Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange “Philosophy of Health Services” established.
1966: First Pacemaker implanted at SRMH.
1967: SRMH 4-bed Coronary Care unit opens; first CCU in Sonoma County.
1968: SRMH Auxiliary begins the “High Fever Follies.”
1969: 36-bed third floor edition to SRMH East Wing opens bringing capacity to 219 beds.
1969: Sr. Mary Esther appointed as Administrator.
1976: SRMH initiates capital campaign for equipment modernization; goal is $1.3 million.
1977: Sonoma County’s first Paramedic Base Station established at SRMH.
1979: Redwood Empire Cardiac Exercise Program (RECEP) starts at SRMH.
1980: Petaluma Valley Hospital opens with 99 beds, replacing Hillcrest Hospital.
1980: SRMH purchases 60-bed Santa Rosa General Hospital after a prior year of management.
1980: City of Santa Rosa issues $29,680,000 in tax-exempt revenue bonds for Phase I building.

1980: SRMH sustains 12-day work stoppage.

1981: Open Heart Surgery program opens.


1981: First hospital long-range plan adopted; priority is to expand capacity to meet demand.

1982: CT head and body scanning introduced at SRMH.


1982: First Coronary Angioplasty performed at SRMH.

1983: Phase II of building program (121 beds plus ancillary and support services) completed.

1984: George Heidkamp appointed as SRMH President.

1984: Digital Subtraction Angiography introduced at SRMH.

1984: Outpatient Pavilion opens at SRMH.

1984: General Hospital closes.

1985: Phase III (ED), the final phase of the building program, is completed.

1985: Rohnert Park Healthcare Center opens.

1985: NCHCC opens the Montgomery Center for outpatient services.

1986: SJHS “Vision of Values” establishes broad policies for values integration.

1986: Kidney Transplant and organ procurement services added at SRMH.

1986: “Sampling of Sonoma” wine auction established as a hospital fundraiser.

1986: SRMH leases General Hospital to Catholic Charities for use as a homeless center.

1986: SRMH sustains a 52-day work stoppage.

1987: Dedicated Cardiac Catheterization laboratory added at SRMH.

1987: Redwood Empire Air Care Helicopter (REACH) program begins at SRMH.


1987: SRMH begins relationship as a work site for developmentally disabled children.

1988: Annual “Values in Action” nominations and awards process established at SRMH.

1988: Mammography and Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy (ESWL) begin at SRMH.

1988: “Sampling of Sonoma” wine auction established as a hospital fundraiser.

1988: Jake Henry appointed as hospital President and CEO.


1989: First Laser Angioplasty performed at SRMH.

1989: SRMH Cancer Program approved by American College of Surgeons.

1990: Neurosurgical Stereotactic Biopsy initiated at SRMH.

1990: Mobile Health Clinic and Dental Clinic begin services.

1990: Jim Houser appointed as President and CEO.

1990: Senior Class program begins at SRMH.

1991: Electrophysiology Lab established at SRMH.

1992: SRMH Foundation is established and initiates its Pro-Am Golf Tournament.

1993: SJHS “Values Standards and Key Indicators” finalized.

1993: Home Care Partners formed as a joint venture with Warrack Hospital.

1994: SRMH designated as one of 50 U.S. Community Clinical Oncology Programs (CCOP).

1994: Construction of employee parking garage completed.

1994: Construction of 50,000 square foot Medical Center Plaza completed.

1994: Community Benefit program established.

1994: NCHCC opens Fulton Road center for rehab, psych, and occupational health services.

1994: Growing Together pre-natal education program begins at SRMH.


1995: Elsie Allen High School Clinic opens.

1995: Radiation Therapy Pavilion and Cancer Library opens at Cancer Center w/ gifts of $1 mil.

1995: SRMH Emergency Department becomes the “Heart Alert Center” of the Redwood Empire.

1995: SRMH submits proposals to manage Community and Warrack hospitals; later withdrawn.
1996: Robert Fish appointed as President and CEO.
1996: Southwest Community Health Center opens; later is gifted to the community.
1996: “House Calls” program established.
1996: SRMH Subacute unit opens.
1996: Petaluma Hospital District celebrates 50 years of service.
1996: Sonoma County Board of Supervisors leases Community Hospital to Sutter Health.
1997: SRMH enters into agreement with Petaluma Health Care District to manage PVH.
1997: Affiliations developed with Primary Care Associates and Hillcrest Medical Group.
1997: Memorial Hospice begins.
1997: Oakmont Medical Suites opens with radiology and other services.
1998: St. Joseph Health Foundation established.
1998: Columbia/HCA sells Healdsburg General Hospital to local Nuestro Hospital, Inc.
1999: David Ameen appointed as President and CEO.
1999: SRMH/UCSF Level II Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) opens.
1999: St. Joseph Home Care Network established to serve an SJHS three-county region.
1999: Columbia/HCA sells Palm Drive Hospital to local West County Health Care Fdn.
1999: Northern California Telemedicine Network formed.
2000: Celebration of 50 years of Sisters in Sonoma County and SRMH 50th anniversary.
2000: SRMH designated as Level II Trauma Center
2000: Palliative Care unit opened at Sotoyome campus.
2000: PVH remodeling begins.
2000: SRMH receives DHHS grant for telemedicine.
2000: SRMH assesses and finds it not feasible to affiliate with Healdsburg General Hospital.
2001: Outpatient Clinical Laboratory services begin at SRMH.
2001: SJHS-SC receives Criminal Justice Prevention grant for “Circle of Sisters.”
2001: HPR sells Warrack Hospital to Sutter Health.
2002: SRMH, SJHF and PCA realign relationships; SJHF is dissolved.
2002: Medical Access receives grant for additional mobile clinic.
2002: SRMH contracts with Horizon Mental Health Management to manage Psychiatric services.
2003: SRMH Ambulatory Surgery Center opens.
2003: SJHS contracts with Cardinal Health to manage the St. Joseph Home Care Network.
2003: Integration of the former North Coast Fulton and Sotoyome campuses with SRMH/Montgomery.
2004: First 16-slice CT scanner installed at SRMH.
2004: St. Joseph Urgent Care Center opens at the Fulton campus.
2005: SRMH Emergency Department expansion completed.
2005: George Pérez appointed President and CEO.

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