

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Frontera Launches Public Phase of Administration and Community Center Campaign

Menard community members, elected officials and supporters gathered to celebrate the project's next chapter and build momentum toward Frontera's \$3.7 million campaign goal.

MENARD, TEXAS | September 25, 2026 | Frontera Healthcare Network (FHN) welcomed community members, supporters and elected officials to Menard on September 23rd and 24th to mark the public kickoff of the Frontera Administration and Community Center Capital Campaign.

The kickoff opened Wednesday evening with donors, partners and community leaders touring the historic former NAPA building and viewing renderings of the planned renovations. The evening continued at Silver Spur, where speakers shared the story behind the project and what the new center will mean for Menard, Frontera and the future of rural healthcare in the region.

The celebration opened to the full community Thursday. U.S. Representative August Pfluger (TX-11) addressed attendees inside the future Frontera Administration and Community Center, and visitors toured the space, walked through the renovation plans and saw firsthand how the building will serve both Frontera and Menard for years to come. Congressman Pfluger's office previously helped secure federal Community Project Funding for improvements to the Menard building "This building has been part of Menard for generations, and now our community gets to write its next chapter," said Mikki Hand, APRN, FNP-C, Chief Executive Officer of Frontera Healthcare Network. "Seeing this many neighbors, partners and community leaders come together reminded us exactly why we are doing this."

Wednesday evening's program told a larger story of Frontera's place in Menard, beginning with the community need that helped bring Frontera to the area and continuing through the role the organization plays today. Speakers reflected on Frontera's growth over the years and shared how access to local healthcare has made a difference for their families, their careers and the community as a whole. That impact also extends through partnerships across Menard, including Frontera's support of Menard Manor and the Menard County Hospital District with grant writing and the medical services Frontera provides to residents of Menard Manor.

Local school leaders spoke about Frontera's growing partnership with Menard ISD, from supporting student health clubs and providing mental health services in the schools to creating opportunities through Frontera's rural health initiative for students to explore healthcare careers close to home. Others shared what Frontera has meant as both a healthcare provider and a local employer, including the importance of having stable jobs and access to care in a rural community.

Together, their stories illustrated a common theme: Frontera's impact in Menard extends beyond the walls of the clinic. The new Administration and Community Center represents an opportunity to build on that relationship, creating additional space for education, workforce development, community programs and the teams that support rural healthcare throughout the region.

As the evening's remarks drew to a close, Frontera shared a video message from Renee Zimmerman, FNP-C. Born and raised in Menard, Zimmerman has spent years caring for her hometown as one of Frontera's family nurse practitioners. In her message, she announced a personal gift of \$5,000 to the campaign.

Zimmerman's gift provided an early boost to the newly launched public fundraising phase and was followed by additional pledges from those who gathered. With those gifts, Frontera has now raised **\$2,451,437 toward its \$3.7 million campaign goal.**

Elected Leaders Join the Kickoff

Texas State Representative Wes Virdell (District 53) joined Frontera and community members for Wednesday evening's program, sharing in the celebration as the campaign entered its public phase. Frontera also extends its thanks to the local officials, community leaders, partners, donors and supporters who participated throughout the two-day kickoff and continue to support rural healthcare and the communities Frontera serves.

Frontera also thanks Menard County Judge Brandon Corbin, county commissioners and members of the Menard City Council who attended the kickoff for their continued support of healthcare in Menard.

Building Something for Frontera and for Menard

The former NAPA Auto Parts building has long been part of the Menard community. Its donation to Frontera provided the foundation for the project, but significant renovations are still needed to bring the building up to code and prepare it for its next purpose.

Plans call for restoring the building's storefront and transforming the interior into administrative and team offices, training areas and flexible community spaces. The completed center is expected to provide opportunities for cooking and nutrition classes, CPR training, youth programming, community meetings and other educational activities.

The center will also provide a permanent home for many of the teams that support Frontera's healthcare operations across its service area.

With initial fundraising and \$2,429,437 in federal Community Project Funding secured with the help of Congressman Pfluger's office, Frontera has reached \$2,451,437 of the \$3.7 million total project budget. That leaves approximately \$1.25 million to raise from private and community support.

Construction is expected to begin in January 2027, with Frontera anticipating a move into the completed building in early 2028.

"We are excited about what this space can become for Menard and for the communities Frontera serves," Hand added. "We've shared the vision. Now we're inviting our community to be part of making it a reality."

Those interested in supporting the **Frontera Administration and Community Center Capital Campaign**, including available naming opportunities for the building and spaces within it, may

contact Development Manager Giovanna Balido at giving@fronterahn.org, or visit www.fronterahcn.org/admin-capital-campaign

About Frontera Healthcare Network

Frontera Healthcare Network is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center serving rural communities across the Texas Hill Country since 2007. FHN provides primary care, behavioral health, pharmacy, and preventive services across clinics in Junction, Mason, Brady, Menard, and Fredericksburg. In 2025, FHN recorded 31,587 patient visits and today serves 1 in 6 individuals across its county service area. FHN has been recognized nationally as a 2025 Health Center Quality Leader and a National Quality Leader in Behavioral Health. FHN accepts most major insurance plans and offers a sliding fee discount program based on income. For more information, visit www.fronterahn.org.

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