



PRESS RELEASE

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SENIOR BEHAVIOR HEALTH NEEDS IN SATANTA

SATANTA, KS — Maintaining good mental health is important at any age, but during recent years even more attention has been focused on the mental health of older adults. Today within the United States, seniors who are 65 years and older are the fastest growing age group and people who are 80+ are expected to surge from 13 million to over 32 million in the next 25 years and these statistics are especially true here in Southwest Kansas.

Thankfully, Satanta District Hospital has been both progressive and proactive in this region. Satanta District Hospital has offered specialized mental health treatment for older adults for several years. Recent changes to the Senior Behavioral Treatment program were made in the fall of 2024 resulted in the program being recognized nationally in 2025, and now in 2026, as one of the best programs of this type in the Signet Healthcare system.

While seniors have traditionally not been open to talk therapy/counseling, mental health professionals have seen a shift in attitudes. More seniors have been attempting mental health treatment. Even more encouraging, national statistics are revealing that older people often get better results in shorter timeframes than adults in their 30s, 40s, and 50s.

Unexpected hardships can happen quickly for older adults, including health issues, loss of spouses, and major changes in housing and independence. Addressing the depression and anxiety that often occurs with these sudden changes as soon as possible has shown impressive results for helping seniors remain positive and hopeful in managing and adjusting to their new realities.

Nationally, as more older adults seek mental health support/treatment, the fact is that the workforce is not prepared to meet this growing need. Professionals with this specialty do not even exist in many areas, but Satanta District Hospital has distinguished themselves in being ready to meet this need. The Senior Behavioral Health program is headed by an experienced psychotherapist who is also an aging specialist. Medical oversight for the program is provided by a psychiatrist who also has a specialty in geriatric psychiatry, which is rare to find.

If you or someone you know might be interested in learning more about mental health treatment, you are welcome to inquire about the program more and/or refer yourself. Each potential patient goes through an assessment process to see if they are a good fit for the program. The initial assessment is completely free. Once accepted, we can offer transportation in Satanta and surrounding towns such as Liberal and Garden City. Our program is Medicare approved and all treatment is outpatient.

We are just a phone call away; feel free to call with any questions or concerns at (620) 682-4951.