

**2025 In-Hospital Service Award
Over 100 Beds**



**Baxter Health
Mountain Home, Arkansas
North Central District**

Can You Play A Song For Me?

One of our community members, Jeanie Alley, moved back to the area after being gone for 5 decades. As a music teacher, Jeanie wanted to bring to the hospital a healing service with her music. She bought a Baldwin grand piano and donated it to the hospital through our hospital Foundation. In 2017 Jeanie began playing the piano in the main lobby of Baxter Health from 10am until noon. This is an on-going program for our patients and visitors to the main lobby.

Jeanie began to hold auditions and recruit musicians to play daily on the piano. We currently have 5 volunteers who play the piano for us. Also, Jeanie recruited one volunteer who plays the harp one day a week. Jeanie expanded the music program by scheduling special programs such as handbell choirs at various times in the year. She may also have a soloist come and accompany the piano with special songs. Also, the music selected is the choice of each volunteer who plays. Many times, during their shifts, the volunteer musicians will have special requests and they work hard to fulfill those requests.

What we have discovered is that music is healing, mood lifting, and can bring back special memories as it is listened to. The music that is being played touches the people who hear it. The volunteer musicians get many positive comments and thanks for a song that is being played or sung. This year, the music program was featured in the Baxter Health's publication, the *Pulse Magazine Spring Edition*. Listening to the music gives family members something to do while waiting for procedures to be completed on their loved ones. These folks have come to the hospital for hope and healing. Our volunteers who

participate with this project feel very much that the music they are playing is a ministry and we are all blessed by it.

We are licensed for 268 beds.