

History of Health Services

Until the early 1970s, the Berry College Health and Wellness Center (then called the "Infirmary") functioned as a hospital, providing complete medical care on site, including x-rays, surgery and dental services. However, the changing student population and changing economic conditions dictated a change in service. By 1982, the Center was reduced to what was still an impressive 22-bed facility with equipment for limited lab services, minor surgery, nursing care, kitchen and dining room, exam rooms and a doctor's office.

In an effort to better meet the needs of a changing college population and in response to the increased availability of easily accessible community services, the Health Center was restructured. Overnight care was eliminated in 1982, as were all beds except one, which was kept for short term observation. The ward rooms were converted to office space and a classroom.

Today, the Health and Wellness Center remains in the Ladd Center, along with the Counseling Center and Residence Life. Student use of Health Services has increased steadily since the change in 1982. The Health and Wellness Center currently has four exam rooms with adjoining bathrooms, a spacious waiting area, a nurses station, a kitchen, allergy treatment waiting area, and several offices.

There is a display of artifacts from the hospital era of the Health and Wellness Center located in the lobby.