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For Immediate Release

**Thomas Health Foundation Funds 3D Mammography for Health System**

**Charleston, W.Va.** - Thomas Health is thrilled to begin offering 3-D mammography (breast tomosynthesis) for our patients. The upgrade could not have been made without the generous support of the Thomas Health Foundation and its donors.

"Early detection is key when dealing with breast cancer," says Dr. Matthew Upton, Chief Medical Officer for Thomas Health. "Studies indicate when 3-D Mammography is combined with a conventional 2-D mammography, cancer detection rates are higher than with traditional methods alone. Additionally, recall rates are reduced, which means fewer patients are called back unnecessarily."

"We are grateful for the support of the Foundation and its donors throughout this project, without whom, this upgrade would not have been possible," says Brian L. Ulery, Chief Operating Officer for Thomas Health. "We are looking forward to the completion of other projects the Foundation has sponsored."

The 3-D mammography screening experience is similar to that of a traditional mammogram. During the exam, multiple low-dose images of the breast are taken at different angles. These images are then combined to create a 3-D reconstruction of the breast.

"We are so pleased to provide the funding to bring 3D mammography to Thomas Health," commented Lisa Lopinsky, Executive Director of the Thomas Health Foundation. "So many of us have known someone who's battled breast cancer and having access to 3D mammography offers opportunities to support breast health in our community."

Patients may schedule an appointment by calling, 304-766.3726.

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Thomas Health operates Thomas Memorial Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital, Thomas Health Physician Partners and TMH Services. Thomas Health currently serves approximately 275,000 patients annually and employs approximately 1,650 people. For more information about Thomas Health, visit [thomashealth.org](http://thomashealth.org).

The Thomas Health Foundation was founded in 1989 to support Herbert J. Thomas Jr., Memorial Hospital and later Saint Francis Hospital. Collectively, these hospitals have served the community for over 170 years. The Foundation ensures that all donations are stewarded directly toward the greatest needs of the hospitals and the patients they serve. As a non-profit foundation, they partner with individuals and corporations who share their vision and support their philanthropic efforts