

2013 Newsmaker: Tori Bayless



By Joshua McKerrow — The Capital

AAMC President Victoria Bayless

Anne Arundel Medical Center President Victoria W. "Tori" Bayless expects 3 percent annual growth in the next several years.

Tori Bayless

President and CEO of Anne Arundel Medical Center

NEWSWORTHY: AAMC is one of the largest county players in opening enrollment for the state's new health exchange this year. Under Bayless' leadership, the hospital already has grown to meet health demands and is positioning itself to play an even bigger role in addressing public health concerns - such as reaching vulnerable local populations - in coming year.

QUOTE: "At a time when health care is changing so dramatically, Tori Bayless brings the right vision, drive and creativity to her position as CEO of a thriving, growing Maryland health system. She understands so well the art of collaboration and partnership - whether it's with physicians, area organizations, supporters or patients. And that's what it's going to take to succeed next year and for years to come," said Ken Gummerson, president of AAMC's medical staff.

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By TINA REED Staff Writer | 0 comments

Changes from the Affordable Care Act — otherwise known as Obamacare — will dominate headlines this year. And Anne Arundel Medical Center and its CEO, Victoria "Tori" Bayless, will be smack dab in the middle of the transition.

In October, enrollment for Maryland's state health exchange will begin.

"We are seen as the trusted source for health resources," Bayless said. "We have to make (patients) aware of what programs are available."

AAMC will play a larger role in health care in the coming year as coverage expands.

In 2012, the hospital experienced 11 percent growth in admissions after opening a new hospital tower, which included a separate emergency room for its pediatric patients and additional inpatient hospital beds. Bayless expects 3 percent annual growth in the next several years.

In January, the hospital will open the Hackerman-Patz House to offer patient family lodging. It also is opening up the last available "shell" space built into the new tower to allow 30 more patient beds, Bayless said.

She also expects the hospital to create its own geriatric treatment unit to address the needs of a "tsunami of aging baby boomers" in coming years.

Bayless and AAMC are among the leaders of county efforts to reduce obesity, along with substance abuse and mental health problems. The hospital also is pushing to begin putting primary care-based medical centers in local public housing communities to treat the most vulnerable populations, Bayless said.