



Banner Health Press Conference Gov. Jan Brewer's Remarks May 6, 2009

Good Morning and thank you for coming. I am excited to be here today for the announcement of this wonderful collaboration benefitting people in Arizona who are touched by cancer.

The partnership between Banner Health and University of Texas M.D. Anderson in creating the M.D. Anderson Banner Cancer Center will provide Arizona patients and their families with an unprecedented level of cancer care and a great economic opportunity for our State.

For more than 60 years, M.D. Anderson has devoted itself to eradicating cancer through patient care, research, education and prevention at its main campus in Houston, Texas.

It has consistently been recognized as one of the nation's top hospitals, most recently attaining the top recognition in the 2008 U.S. News & World Report "Best Hospitals" survey.

Its renowned center treats more cancer patients, offers access to more therapeutic clinical research exploring novel treatments, and has more National Cancer Institute-funded studies than any other cancer-fighting organization in the U.S.

The new M.D. Anderson Banner Cancer Center represents M.D. Anderson's most comprehensive extension of its patient care outside of Houston and is the largest collaboration for Banner Health.

In addition to the tremendous assistance this project will provide to cancer patients and their families, the M.D. Anderson Banner Cancer Center will be a great economic opportunity for Arizona.

The \$90 million project will be funded by nonprofit Banner Health through bonds and will open with 260 new highly paying clinical positions and 20 to 30 support positions. By its fifth year of operation, the M.D. Anderson Banner Cancer Center will have 576 high paying clinical employees.

The groundbreaking will also bring work to our construction industry. These essential jobs will bring some much-needed relief to the citizens of Arizona, and will certainly help us as we work on rebuilding our economy.

In closing, I would like to thank Banner Health and M.D. Anderson for bringing this project to Arizona. The Cancer Center will be a great asset to the State as it helps those affected by cancer and adds high paying positions to our job market.

Thank you again for having me here today. I look forward to the Center's opening in 2011.