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LOCAL BRIEFS

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Lifepoint buys Rockdale hospital

LifePoint Hospitals Inc., a Tennessee-based for-profit hospital chain, announced it has completed the acquisition of 138-bed Rockdale Medical Center for \$80 million. Rockdale Medical Center had looked for a buyer since 2006. The purchase will allow the Hospital Authority of Rockdale County to pay all the outstanding debts of the hospital and also leave about \$40 million in the authority to be used for charitable health care purposes. LifePoint also will invest \$30 million in capital in the Conyers hospital over the next six years. LifePoint was created as a spinoff of HCA Inc., with 47 hospitals in 17 states. Rockdale Medical Center is LifePoint's only hospital in Georgia.

— Andy Miller