Staff from both Calais Regional Hospital and Down East Community Hospital in Machias, have been working on a plan to provide quality OB/GYN services locally in Calais. Rod Boula, CRH CEO, and Dennis Welsh, DECH CEO, began discussions with the announcement that delivery services would be ending at CRH. With all of the logistics of such an endeavor finally worked out, it is exciting to announce that DECH providers Kara Dwight, MD and Christian Inegbenijie, MD will provide office visits in Calais one day a week once clinic licensure is obtained. Dr. Inegbenijie and Dr. Dwight are both board certified OB/GYNs who have been providing services at DECH for over 10 years. Both physicians are experienced in the latest treatments and medical technologies and specialize in high risk obstetrics, which includes planned and emergency C-sections. They also specialize in minimally invasive gynecological surgeries such as laparoscopic hysterectomies.

Patients in the Calais area who choose DECH for their delivery, can now have most of their prenatal visits right in Calais. Those needing gynecological care can also schedule appointments at the DECH practice in Calais by calling 255-0400. The DECH services will be provided in the same space previously occupied by CRMS Women’s Health at 43 Palmer Street.

“While our volumes have been detrimentally low for the service, we do realize there are patients in our service area who will require OB/GYN services. We felt it was important to reach out on behalf of these patients for some level of service to be provided locally,” explained Mr. Boula. Trying to find a solution that keeps the services in Washington County would relieve the burden of extra travel for the residents of the Calais area. “Health care is a really tough environment that’s constantly shifting. Between CRH and DECH, we have a large service area to cover and our population needs are very similar. What is for certain is that our communities need us. Geographical boundaries don’t always best define that need,” added Mr. Welsh.

Both CEO’s felt working towards this solution best serves the mission of both organizations, which is to serve the healthcare needs of our communities. “We look forward to growing a relationship with DECH for providing quality OB/GYN care locally for area residents,” said Mr. Boula. Other women’s health services will continue to be available through primary care locations and at the hospital including screening and testing services such as well woman visits, mammography, bone density, ultrasound, laboratory testing and more.