2001: Russ Johnson becomes Chief Executive Officer of SLVRMC
Many colleagues and members of the Alamosa economic and business community refer to Russ as “visionary.” Prior to joining SLVRMC in Alamosa, Russ served as chief operating officer for Edinburg Regional Medical Center in South Texas. In addition Russ served as assistant administrator for operations for St. Luke’s Northland Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. Russ began his career at St. Luke’s Methodist Hospital in Cedar Rapids Iowa where he worked with the hospital to develop a partnership of 13 hospitals in eastern Iowa who collaborated on a variety of services and programs.

2002: Partnership to preserve healthcare in Conejos County formed
Financial and management service agreements were developed to include La Jara & Antonito Clinics and Conejos County Hospital. This action preserved over 70 full time jobs.

2003: The SLVRMC Foundation Board officially registered
In 2003, the “operating board” worked collaboratively with the “uptown” board to create a more effective ownership and governance model. At that time, the operating board became the official governing body for the hospital as it had been in practice for many years. The uptown board was converted to a foundation board and augmented with an additional 8 to 10 members. This restructuring created clear lines of responsibility and authority between all the parties and established the now very successful SLV Health Foundation.

2005: Volunteer Ambassador program and ambulatory services begin
The volunteer Ambassador program officially formed when the new ambulatory services were added. They overlapped with the Gray Ladies until Hazel Patty and Eleanor Mickelsen stepped down in 2014.

2006: Stephanie L. Miner Imaging Center
Stephanie L. Miner Imaging Center was added to the Radiology Department. She was a well-known, young mother who died of breast cancer. Her husband, Chris Miner, and her parents, Marvin and Mary Motz, agreed to establish a memorial by creating a “storefront” to encourage women that early detection is the best prevention. The number of women receiving mammography screenings more than doubled the first year this was opened, and now a 5K walk is an annual event to raise awareness and funds for upgrades.

2006: Eagle Air Med Partnership
Eagle Air Med located to the San Luis Valley. SLVRMC and SLVHMO collaborated to bring this new air transport service directly to the Valley, greatly reducing the travel time for emergency patients needing to reach destinations for treatment of their critical condition. In addition, the local flight service is able to provide transport at lower costs than services based out of region.

2007: Integration of Physician Services with SLVRMC
Physician Services, located at 2115 Stuart Avenue, joins SLVRMC in a partnership to preserve many specialties, including Internal Medicine, Family Practice, General Surgery, OB/GYN, ENT, Orthopedics, Allergy, Audiology and Pathology.

2008: SLVH becomes one of the first hospitals in CO to offer chiropractic care
In 2017, according to surveys, that number has increased to 42% of hospitals that offer some sort of alternative care. SLVH continues to be a pioneer in complementary services.

2008-2009: New Medical Office Building, outpatient surgical services on 2nd floor, Artrium and a new lobby/entry added
The Medical Office Building at 106 Blanca Ave, outpatient surgical services on the 2nd floor, the Artrium and a new lobby and entry are additions made to the Regional Medical Center. The Grizzly Inn became the Education and Conference Center to expand the health care campus. The old Medical Office Building was demolished.

2010: SLVRMC becomes Centura Health affiliate
The Centura affiliation opened the door to many opportunities, especially in the need of specialty care referrals. The goal of the alliance is to contribute to the quality and scope of services.

2011: Monte Vista Community Clinic adds to services to west end of the Valley
2012: The first full time cardiologist joins staff and allows for the expansion of specialty services

2012: Antonito Clinic will expand services to south end of the Valley