



## Prospero Health to set up operations in Memphis

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Health care startup Prospero Health plans to invest \$1.5 million and hire 249 workers in Memphis over the next five years, setting up operations in One Commerce Square Downtown.

City and state officials made the announcement Tuesday morning, Sept. 17, in the lobby of the iconic Downtown office tower at Monroe and Main Street.

The company that provides support to seriously ill patients will initially occupy 14,000 square feet in One Commerce Square, but its space needs will grow to about 50,000 square feet once employment rises to nearly 250 people.

The startup's headquarters will remain in Boston. The firm could have established its operations center there as well, chief executive Doug Wenners said following the announcement event.

Prospero Health chose Memphis for its operations because of the city's "high quality labor force, the connection to the University of Memphis and the opportunity for academic clinical training," Wenners said.



Prospero Health provides home-based supportive care to seriously ill patients and their caregivers. Using data, the company's care center - one of the functions to be housed in One Commerce Square - reaches out to potential patients and tells them Prospero Health can send a nurse to their home.

"And try to make a connection and get the nurse in a home and build a relationship from there," company

"We evaluate their needs, not just supporting patients but also caregivers, family members and friends. Whoever is supporting the person, we support them as well," Ryan said.

Teams of physicians, nurses and social workers eventually will be in 23 markets, coast to coast, to offer 24/7 support in the home, over the phone or through video-conferencing.

Prospero Health's operations center in Memphis will provide administrative support for hundreds of physicians, nurses and social workers across the 23 U.S. markets eventually.



like doctors, nurses and social workers; and people who provide administrative support such as taking patients' calls and making calls to pharmacies, said Michael Scarbrough, president and chief operating officer.

"That work needs to take place somewhere," he said. "So with a high distributed workforce it made sense to have all those support functions in one location."

That Memphis is in Central Standard Time and is more centrally located also factored into the decision, Scarbrough said.

"We'll have the clinical teams working coast to coast, California to New York and every place in between. It was really critical to have a centrally located place," he said.

Once Memphis was chosen, the next decision was where in Memphis to put the office. Scarbrough was surprised at how few existing office buildings in Memphis offered the amount of space Prospero Health needed.

Other than suburban places like Lenox Park in the Tenn. 385 Corridor and Clark Tower in East Memphis, there were few spots that offered enough space, he said.

The company ultimately chose Downtown because it provides such an attractive setting for employees and, Scarbrough said, "I wanted to be Downtown."

Prospero Health officials stated in a release that the company has both medical and business jobs available. For more information, visit [prospero-health.com](http://prospero-health.com).