



affiliated facilities in Redmond and Prineville, which never were tied to the church, Vasa added.

The hospital does about 235 tubal ligations a year, and Vasa and the hospital had been in negotiations over the issue for a few years. They finally decided that neither could bend from their positions.

"We just felt we have been offering these procedures for decades and we have an obligation to the patients in our community to offer the procedures they need," said James Diegel, president and CEO of Cascade Healthcare Community President, the hospital's parent company. "This should have no impact on our operations or finances or anything. It's just a severing of an historical relationship that has been in place for 90-plus years."

The hospital was founded in 1918 by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Tipton, Ind., and the order's last administrator retired in 1988, serving on the board until 2000.

The hospital was taken over by a local nonprofit organization in the 1970s.

The hospital would continue to look to church directives for guidance, Diegel added.

"This doesn't change who we have been, who we are and who we will continue to be going forward," Diegel said.

*For more information please visit [www.compassionandchoices.org](http://www.compassionandchoices.org)*

*[Compassion & Choices](http://www.compassionandchoices.org) is a nonprofit organization working to improve care and expand choice at the end of life. We [support](#), [educate](#) and [advocate](#).*

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