

## Crist Clinic for Women will close next week

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By Daily News Staff

A longtime medical practice providing care for women in Onslow County and the surrounding area will be closing its doors at the end of the month.

The Crist Clinic for Women has announced that it will close on Monday, Feb. 29, at 4:45 p.m. The clinic specializes in obstetrics and gynecology and has operated in Jacksonville since 1974.

Dr. Takey Crist was not immediately available for comment, **but a letter he signed and sent to patients** was posted Tuesday on the clinic's Facebook page.

The letter indicates that he is discontinuing the practice due to "unforeseen circumstances" and provides patients with information on finding ongoing medical care.

"I am sorry that I cannot continue as your physician," Dr. Crist wrote. "I extend to you my best wishes for your future health and happiness. Thank you for all the years that you have allowed me to practice medicine for you and all women in Onslow County and the surrounding area."

According to the Facebook post, the decision to publish the letter online was made due to how quickly word had spread through Onslow County and the surrounding area about the closing. The letter was to be mailed out to patients Tuesday afternoon.

Employees were told of the decision to close Tuesday before the letter was posted.

According to its website, Crist Clinic for Women is one of the only practices in eastern North Carolina that employs midwives that are on-call 24 hours a day. The clinic's physicians are also using the da Vinci surgery system.

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