

Restored coverage. Reopened capacity. Renewed care close to home.

How a team-based anesthesia model improved staffing, throughput, and access

When a large multi-hospital system faced a growing surgical backlog, they didn't need a vendor. They needed a partner who could quickly stabilize anesthesia coverage and restore reliable OR operations.

THE CHALLENGE: Before Sound's engagement

- **Six-month surgical backlog** with the community feeling the strain
- **Surgical access declined** as demand rose, driven by reduced coverage
- **OR rooms closed** because anesthesia coverage couldn't stretch across rooms
- **Tough labor market** made recruiting and trust-building difficult

WHAT CHANGED: After Sound's engagement

Sound partnered with hospital leaders to help them do what they set out to do: **care for their population safely and sustainably.**

- **Restored access with a team-based model** that effectively integrates anesthesiologists and CRNAs while maintaining the highest-quality care
- **Rebuilt the workforce fast** in a difficult market and stabilized coverage during the ramp
- **Converted stability into usable OR capacity** by aligning operations, including on-time starts, turnovers, and late-day efficiency/add-ons

THE RESULTS

+14K

cases/year enabled by additional staffed rooms

+37.5%

more staffed anesthetizing locations: 32 to 44

+171

permanent and per diem anesthesiologists and CRNAs hired

+132

full-time equivalent target with sustained recruiting momentum

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Access is the ROI:

When patients and surgeons can count on coverage, performance follows.

Anesthesia unlocks capacity:

Stable coverage reopens capacity and reduces backlogs.

Team-based staffing makes coverage reliable:

A mixed anesthesiologist/CRNA model helps you staff more rooms.



"The biggest win here was for the community—getting people the care they need, where they need it."

— David Leachman, MD, CEO, Sound Anesthesia