

Thursday, January 2, 2025

Denver Health welcomes first baby of 2025

The new year at Denver Health began with a joyful milestone just 109 minutes into 2025. At 1:49 a.m. on New Year's Day, baby Sammer made his debut, weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches. Proud parents Angelica and Jesus couldn't be more thrilled to welcome their healthy newborn, kicking off the year with love. To mark the occasion, the family received a gift of 2,025 diapers and other baby essentials.

"I'm grateful to Denver Health for their receptivity and dedication in everything they do, from the administrative and medical teams to everyone in general," Angelica said. "I'd especially like to honor the work done by the nurses and doctors in the obstetrics department here in Pavilion C."

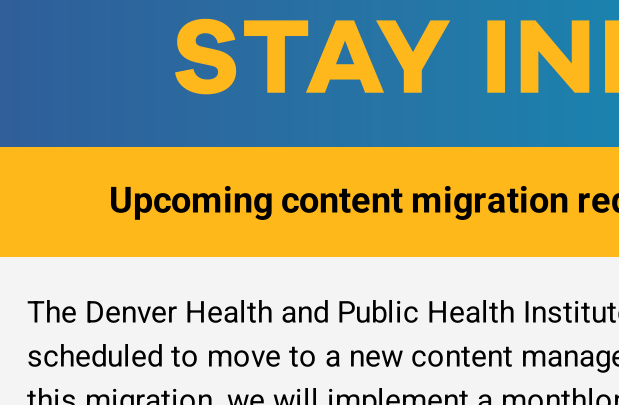
Sammer's birth highlights a continued tradition of trust and excellence at Denver Health. One-third of all babies born in Denver come into the world here, and our labor and delivery team set new records the past two years, helping bring 3,841 babies into the world in 2023 and more than 4,300 in 2024.



EARNING TRUST

2024-26 STRATEGIC PLAN

Catheterization Lab offers new advanced treatment for in-stent restenosis



The Cardiac Catheterization Lab is now one of only six in Colorado offering the Boston Scientific Agent Drug-Coated Coronary Balloon (DCB). This is the first and only FDA-approved drug-coated balloon for treating in-stent restenosis during coronary procedures. The lab used the DCB for the first time on Dec. 6.

Denver Health is committed to providing the latest non-surgical treatment options for patients with heart conditions, including heart attacks, coronary artery disease and arrhythmias. By offering this advanced treatment, we continue to improve patient care and outcomes, further strengthening our role as a leader in cardiovascular care in Colorado.

Pictured from left to right: **Jennifer Forristall, RN, Invasive Cardiology Specialist Michelle Ramirez, RCIS, Interventional Cardiology Physician Matthew Holland, MD, Invasive Cardiology Specialist Eric Smith, RCIS, Jalton Hamlet, RN, Aaron Seidler, RN, Interventional Cardiology Physician Amy Mertens, RCIS, Hailey Thompson** from Boston Scientific and **Jocelyn Knaus, RN**.

STAY INFORMED

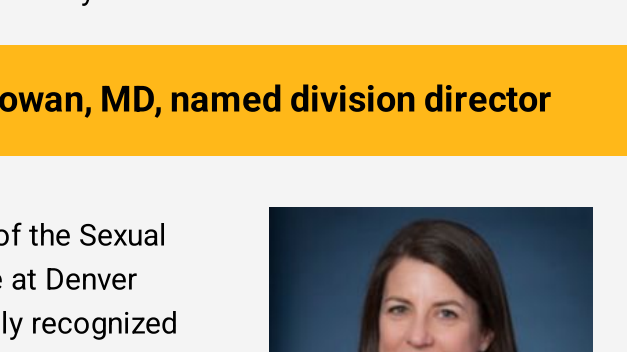
Upcoming content migration requires freeze on website updates

The Denver Health and Public Health Institute at Denver Health (PHI) websites are scheduled to move to a new content management system in mid-to-late February. Ahead of this migration, we will implement a monthlong freeze on website updates. This freeze will happen on **Jan. 13**. Requests for Denver Health website updates need to be submitted by **Friday, Jan. 3** via the [marketing request form](#) on the Pulse so we have time to address them ahead of the move. For PHI requests, email [marketing strategist Nicole Ross](#).

Urgent website updates can be made during this freeze if deemed appropriate, but non-urgent updates will hold until late February.

Holiday cheer continues for children at Denver Health

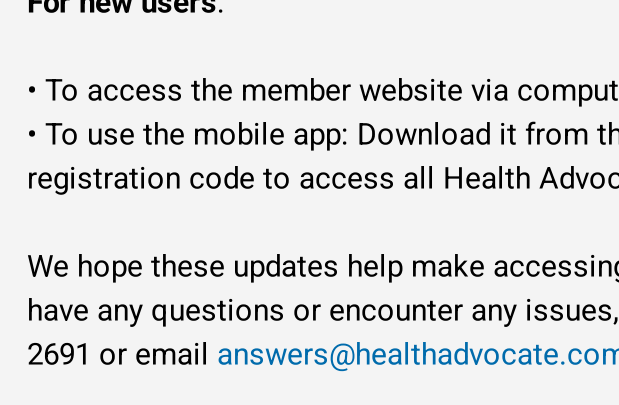
The holiday cheer continued across our health system, with generous gift donations to Inpatient Pediatrics, the Pediatric Emergency Department and ACUTE. Santa also made a special visit to the Oasis unit. In addition, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Patient and Family Advisory Committee (PFAC) spread extra holiday joy this year with their annual photo shoot, which included a special moment for siblings to meet Santa and their new baby brother or sister.



Typically, children under 13 can't enter the NICU due to respiratory season restrictions, so this annual event allows siblings to meet their newborn family members before discharge. **Carrie Hensley, RN**, played the role of Santa, with elf assistance from **Colette Rankin, lactation RN**. Volunteer **Maureen Flander** handed out candy canes, coffee, and hot chocolate to families, while **PFAC member Kara Hlavnicka, RN**, and co-chairs **Stephanie Le, RN**, and **Jacqueline Dicharry, RN**, helped capture these joyful memories. Since 2020, NICU nurses have taken on the role of Santa to safely handle our medically fragile infants, making these photoshoots even more memorable for families.

[See more photos](#)

Martial arts team kicks in to help surgical pediatric patients

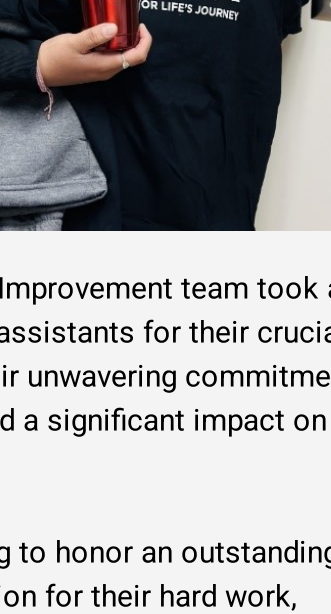


Eli, the son of **Post Anesthesia Care Unit registered nurse Linsey Sherard**, organized a stuffed animal drive this holiday season to benefit our surgical pediatric patients. The drive was held through his martial arts school, ATA Martial Arts Lakewood. Eli's original goal was to collect 50 stuffed animals, but thanks to the generosity of ATA Martial Arts students and their families, donations exceeded 250, filling three large boxes.

Surgery can be a scary experience, especially for pediatric patients and giving them a stuffed animal after surgery helps brighten their day.

Advancing public health: Sarah Rowan, MD, named division director

Sarah Rowan, MD, has been named Director of the Sexual Health Division of the Public Health Institute at Denver Health (PHIDH), effective Jan. 12. A nationally recognized leader in equity-driven care, Dr. Rowan will advance PHIDH's role in public health innovation, patient-centered services, training and community-driven solutions as part of our learning health system.



The Sexual Health Division offers a wide variety of services including care and prevention of sexually transmitted infections, HIV and viral hepatitis, as well as family planning, community outreach, research and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded training program.

Enhanced login process for Health Advocate

Enhancements have been made to the login process for the Health Advocate member website and mobile app, making it easier to access the support you need. For added security, a custom registration code has been created for Denver Health employees. If you haven't registered yet, you will need to use this specific code when signing up.

URL: www.HealthAdvocate.com/denverhealth
Your NEW registration code: **THAR9FW**

For existing users: You can continue to log in as usual to the mobile app or member website. No action is needed.

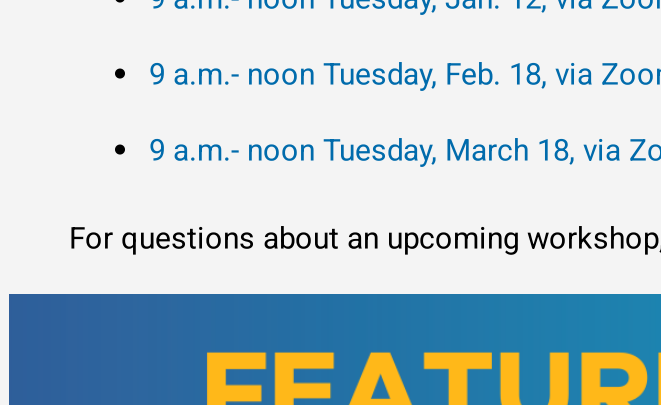
For new users:

- To access the member website via computer: Follow the URL above to register.
- To use the mobile app: Download it from the Apple Store or Google Play, then use the registration code to access all Health Advocate services.

We hope these updates help make accessing Health Advocate's support even easier. If you have any questions or encounter any issues, please contact Health Advocate at 866-799-2691 or email answers@healthadvocate.com.

RECOGNIZING YOU

ACS Quality Improvement Team recognizes medical assistants



In early December, the Ambulatory Care Services (ACS) Quality Improvement team took a moment to express sincere gratitude to our dedicated medical assistants for their crucial role in delivering exceptional patient care. Throughout 2024, their unwavering commitment to accuracy, patient safety and continuous improvement has had a significant impact on the quality of care in our primary care clinics.

To recognize their contributions, each clinic presented a gift bag to honor an outstanding medical assistant. This gesture was a small token of appreciation for their hard work, professionalism and dedication.

The ACS Quality Improvement team congratulates all the winning medical assistants and celebrates their remarkable achievements. Pictured here are just two of our incredible winners: **Lead Medical Assistant Karley Gonzalez Valdez**, the winner at Eastside Family Health Center Pediatrics (left, second from left), who was presented her gift by fellow medical assistants, and **Lead Medical Assistant Sandra Huizar Carrillo**, the winner at Westwood Family Health Center (right).

Recognizing health care awareness during January

This January, we focus on important health issues, honor the steadfast dedication of our health care professionals and recognize special observances in their name. Together, we can learn, share and grow while appreciating the commitment of those who support our well-being.

[Learn more](#)

GET INVOLVED

Share your thoughts with us

As we kick off the new year, we're excited to introduce a fun and interactive way to engage with everyone across the organization: polling questions in the 411. When you see a question posted, get involved. Then, make sure to check back in the following edition where we'll share the results with you.

To start, we're curious: Are resolutions part of your plan for 2025? Take a moment to answer our quick one-question poll and share your perspective.

[Take one-question poll](#)

Sign up for upcoming courses with CAM Academy

Denver Health's **Center for Addiction Medicine (CAM) Academy** offers training and technical assistance on trauma-



responsive substance use disorder treatment for Colorado and neighboring states. In collaboration with the Public Health Institute's **Denver Prevention Training Center**, we invite you to register today for our upcoming courses on **Addiction Medicine 101**, and **Trauma-Responsive Care**. Both courses are designed to equip health care workers, public health professionals and community members with the skills, tools and resources to support people with substance use disorder and offer both continuing nursing education (CNE) and continuing medical education (CME).

Sign up today for a workshop:

Trauma-Responsive Care:

- **9 a.m.- noon, Thursday, Jan. 16, via Zoom**
- **9 a.m.- noon, Thursday, Feb. 13, in-person at CAM Academy**
- **9 a.m.- noon, Thursday, March 13, via Zoom**

Addiction Medicine 101:

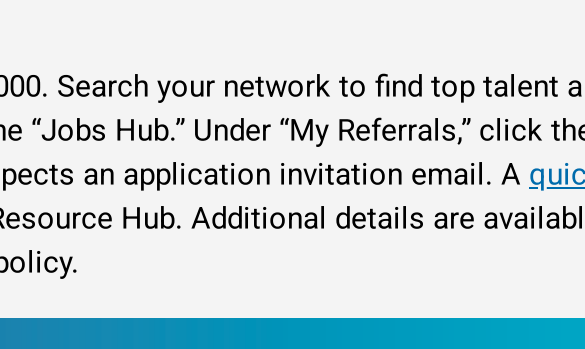
- **9 a.m.- noon Tuesday, Jan. 12, via Zoom**
- **9 a.m.- noon Tuesday, Feb. 18, via Zoom**
- **9 a.m.- noon Tuesday, March 18, via Zoom**

For questions about an upcoming workshop, email CAMAcademy@dhha.org.

FEATURED JOBS

Discover the latest career opportunities at Denver Health

This week's featured job is **RN Registered Nurse (RN) - Operating Room (Nights)**. Take advantage of our Employee Referral Program and refer a friend to one of our Featured Jobs for a chance to earn a referral bonus.



The referral incentive varies depending on the position referred, so don't miss out on this opportunity to help someone find their next great role while earning a reward yourself.

Employee referral incentives range up to \$5,000. Search your network to find top talent and earn cash. Login to your Workday, click on the "Jobs Hub." Under "My Referrals," click the "Refer a Candidate" button to send your prospects an application invitation email. A [quick reference guide](#) is available in the Workday Resource Hub. Additional details are available in the [Employee Referral Incentive Program](#) policy.

GRATITUDE

Montbello Dental Clinic praised for excellent care

It is rewarding to hear from patients who have received outstanding care at Denver Health. This week, we're highlighting a patient review of our team at the Montbello Dental Clinic.

"Had a tooth that needed to be extracted. Unfortunately, I also have a heart condition. They went the extra mile and made sure nothing would go wrong. They only gave me half the anesthesia to make sure it didn't interfere with my heart. I felt little to no pain. Top notch and would recommend them to anyone."

We encourage staff to ask patients to leave a positive review online, as a higher rating helps build trust in our community. Every star counts.

IN THE NEWS

The 411 highlights top stories of the week. Please visit [In the News on the Pulse](#) for a rundown of all recent stories featuring Denver Health.

We met Denver Health's first baby of 2025

Jan. 1, Denverite
Some unexpected complications arose, so doctors pushed the birth back. The situation worried her a bit, but her fears washed away in the early hours of Jan. 1, 2025, when Sammer finally arrived. He was born at 1:49 a.m., making him Denver Health's first delivery of the new year. "Thanks to the great work of the hospital's medical team and nurses, my baby and I were doing very well," she said. "They guaranteed the safety of my life and that of my son."

Denver welcomes first babies born in 2025, all boys

Jan. 1, Denver Gazette
"The fact that so many people in Denver trust us to deliver their babies is an honor and a testament to the high-quality and equitable care we provide to all in our community," **Stefka Fabbri, MD, chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Denver Health**, said in the release.

United Airlines employees get sick in Colorado after eating company-provided Christmas meal

Dec. 27, CBS Colorado
The incident serves as a reminder that this time of year what you eat at celebrations can make you sick if you're not careful. **Heather Young, MD, the Director of Infection Prevention at Denver Health** says getting food poisoning is a regular occurrence. "So, foodborne outbreaks are common throughout the United States. Millions of people have symptoms of food poisoning throughout the year," said Young.

Denver Health's "Tasting with Tots" educating families on healthy eating

Dec. 24, Denver7
In addition to education, "Tasting with Tots" addresses food insecurity by ensuring participants leave each class with a bag of groceries and recipes to recreate the snacks at home. "We know that it's not really that helpful to just tell people you need to eat healthy food if they don't have access to that food in their homes," **Haley Ringwood, MD, a family physician at Denver Health**, said.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January | February

- Jan. 7:** RESTORE Group Support: Grief & Loss
- Jan. 8:** Webinar: Get started and save for the future
- Jan. 9:** Webinar for higher education webinar
- Jan. 20:** MLK Parade
- Jan. 21:** Fidelity in-person appointments
- Jan. 23:** Denver Nuggets vs Sacramento Kings
- Feb. 13:** Trauma-Responsive Care
- Feb. 18:** Addiction Medicine 101

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Denver Health VALUES how we do it.	RESPECT	BELONGING	TRANSPARENCY	ACCOUNTABILITY
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SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE WEEKLY 411 Submit content for consideration in the Weekly 411 through the employee outreach request form [here](#). Accuracy and quality matter, so please provide all material as early as possible. Your submission should detail who, what, when, where, why and how, with correct spelling and explanation of acronyms. We encourage you to include photos and any links or attachments that may help to communicate your message. Content received after noon on Tuesday will be considered for the following week's edition.

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