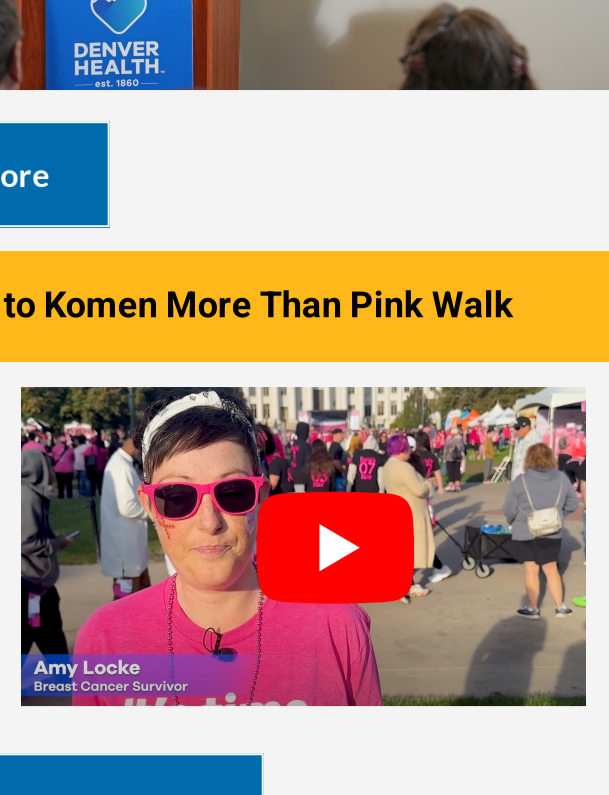


Thursday, October 17, 2024

Peña, portrait paint picture of community health

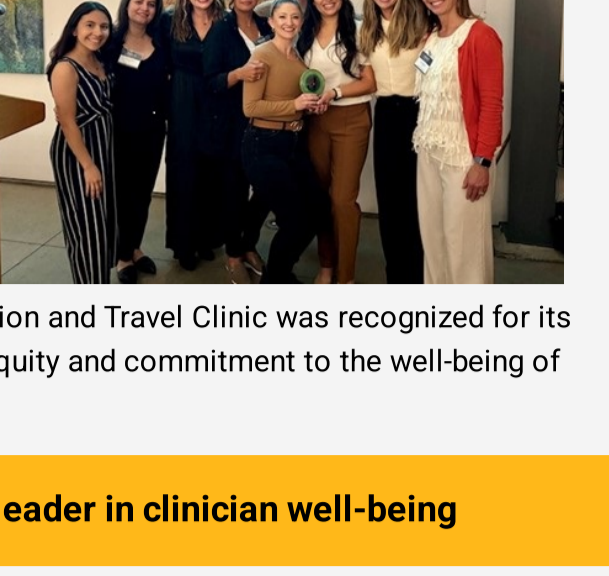
Denver Health on Monday celebrated the contributions of former Denver Mayor Federico F. Peña during the unveiling of his portrait at the Federico F. Peña Family Health Center. The event marked the end of Hispanic Heritage Month and highlighted Peña's lasting impact on our health system and the Denver community.



[Read more](#)

Denver Health brings biggest team to Komen More Than Pink Walk

For the second year in a row, Denver Health had the largest registered team at the Komen More Than Pink Walk with 144 members. Our team raised nearly \$1,600 for vital breast cancer research that will go toward finding a cure; the Komen walk overall raised more than \$486,000.



[Read more and see photo gallery](#)

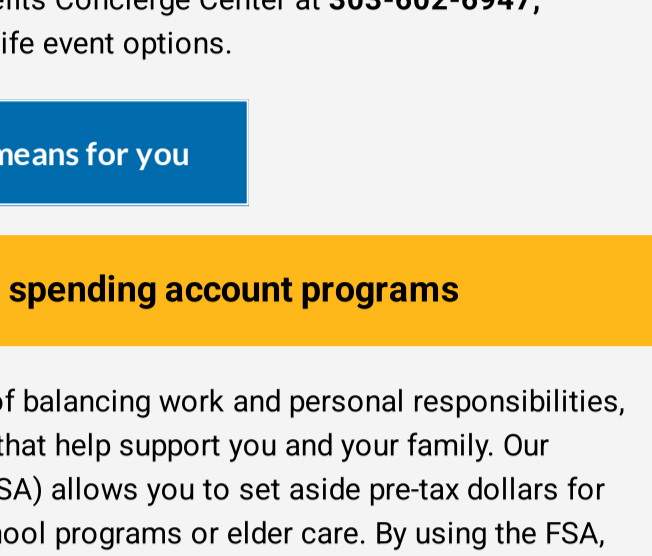
EARNING TRUST

2024-26 STRATEGIC PLAN



Immunization and Travel Clinic wins Sure Shot Award

Congratulations to the **Immunization and Travel Clinic** at Denver Health for receiving the 2024 Denver Metro Sure Shot Award during the **13th S.O.U.P!** (Shots Offer Unrivaled Protection) event Oct. 10 at the Space Gallery in Denver.



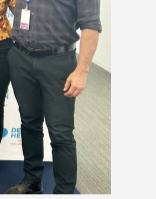
Immunize Colorado honors organizations excelling in community health through immunization efforts statewide. The Immunization and Travel Clinic was recognized for its comprehensive services, dedication to health equity and commitment to the well-being of the community.

Denver Health recognized as a leader in clinician well-being

The American Medical Association (AMA) this week recognized Denver Health as a Joy in Medicine health organization. This distinction is granted to organizations that meet the rigorous criteria of the **Joy in Medicine Health System Recognition Program** and acknowledges the nation's leaders in prioritizing proven efforts to enhance the well-being and professional fulfillment of physicians.

[Learn more](#)

OPEN ENROLLMENT 2025



Qualifying life event required for changes outside of open enrollment

The **open enrollment period** for health insurance runs **Oct. 21-Nov. 4**. If you have a qualifying life event (QLE) — a significant change in your life that allows you to enroll in or make changes to your health insurance plan outside of the annual open enrollment period — you can make changes by calling the Benefits Concierge Center at **303-602-6947, option 2**. [Click here](#) to review the qualifying life event options.

[What this means for you](#)

Take advantage of flexible spending account programs

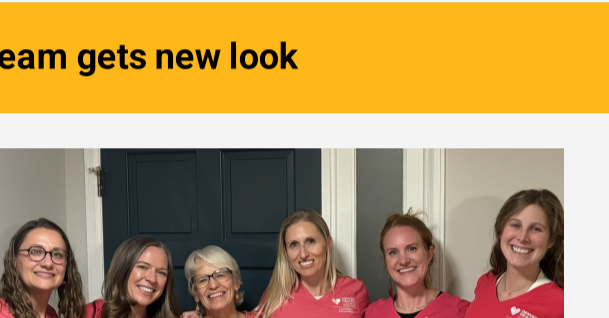
Denver Health understands the importance of balancing work and personal responsibilities, and we are committed to providing benefits that help support you and your family. Our dependent care flexible spending account (FSA) allows you to set aside pre-tax dollars for eligible expenses such as day care, after-school programs or elder care. By using the FSA, you can reduce your taxable income while covering these essential costs. It's a great way to make your money go further if you have dependents who need care while you're at work.

[Learn more](#)

STAY INFORMED

There's still time to join the Employee Giving Campaign

If you haven't participated in the 2024 Employee Giving Campaign, it's not too late.



Your support helps fund essential services, such as providing care to newcomers in our community. Often, newcomers seek care only when it's urgent, usually through the Emergency Department. To address this, Denver Health, in partnership with Denver Public Schools, launched a Mobile Health Center that has served more than 200 newcomer students since January.

If you are interested in contributing to this 2024 campaign, enroll in payroll deductions or make a one-time donation by **Thursday, Oct. 31**, to be eligible for this year's incentives.

Check out the [Denver Health Foundation Pulse](#) subsite to learn more and contribute today.

Denver Health hosts Treasury Department officials

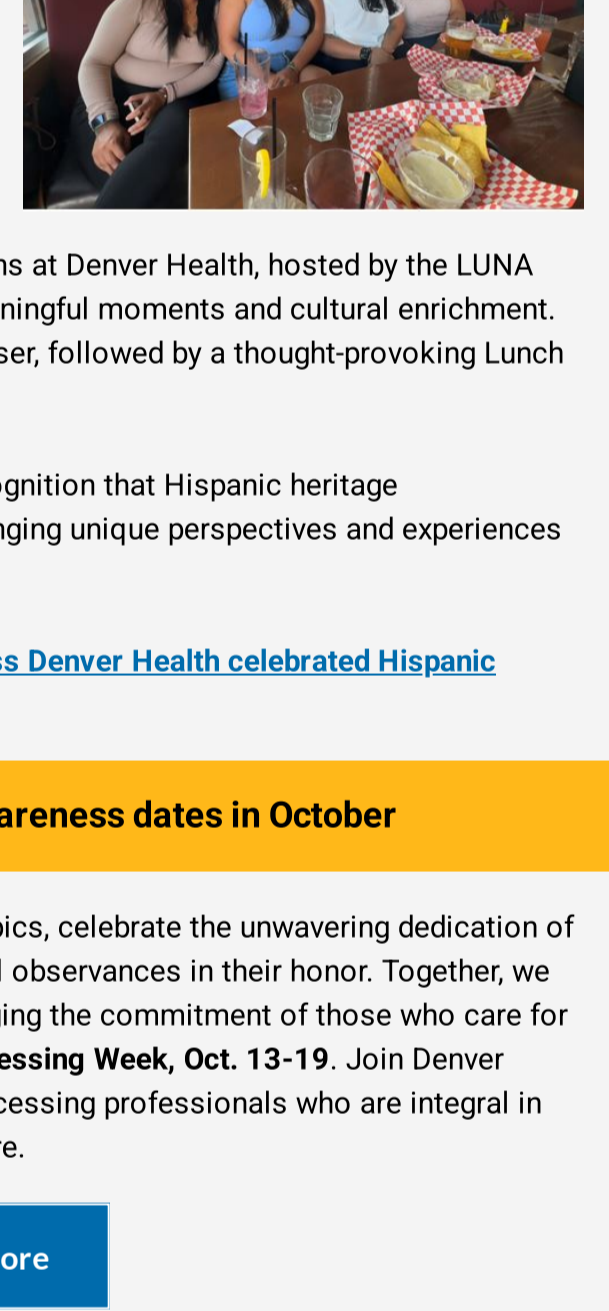
Denver Health recently hosted two officials from U.S. Treasury Department and other housing-related community partners tied to the Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPPRA) program. We are one of the implementation partners in the Denver Housing to Health program, along with the city of Denver, WellPower and the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless.



Hospitalist Sarah Stella, MD, and Tom Gray, SIPPPRA project coordinator, lead this effort for Denver Health. Through data analytics, outreach and direct coordination with supportive housing program staff, Denver Health made the initial connection to housing for approximately one-quarter of program participants and reconnected participants to supportive housing staff after absences or exits from housing.

Mom/Baby lactation team gets new look

The **Mom/Baby lactation team** at Denver Health has a fresh new look. Our lactation consultants are now wearing hot pink scrub tops, making it easier for patients to identify them among the nursing staff. Pink aligns with breast cancer awareness, and breastfeeding is linked to a reduced risk of breast cancer in women. Breast health is crucial at all stages, and the lactation team is excited to support families in reaching their breastfeeding goals.



Celebrate Halloween, show team spirit with updated dress code

In celebration of Halloween, we invite all employees to show their festive spirit by wearing costumes or Halloween-themed scrubs from **Saturday, Oct. 26**, through **Thursday, Oct. 31**. Please ensure that costumes are respectful and comply with the dress code, which can be [accessed here](#).

We're also excited to announce a new addition to our dress code policy: Starting **Friday, Nov. 1**, employees are welcome to wear Denver Health T-shirts on the **first Friday** of each month.

Finally, with football season in full swing, employees are invited to wear Broncos attire on game days throughout the 2024-2025 season, pending approval from their executive leader. Let's embrace these fun opportunities to boost engagement and celebrate together.

San-I-Pak site visit and autoclave refurbishment

The **Denver Health High-risk Infection Team (HITeam)** is working with San-I-Pak to refurbish our on-campus autoclave sterilizers, which are used for the safe disposal of category A infectious waste. Over the weekend, you can expect some activity related to this project.



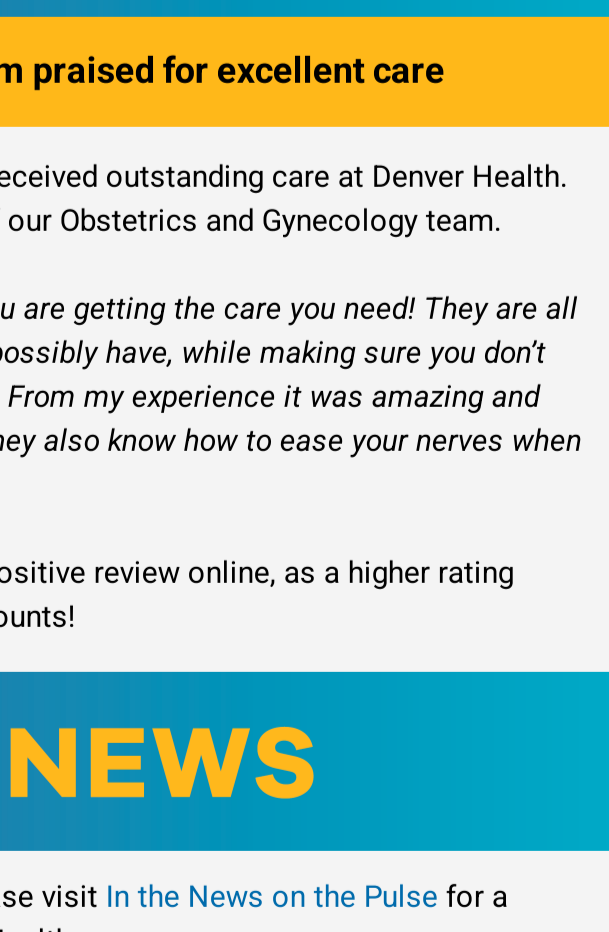
Republic Services will remove the waste compactor at the Mason Building loading dock on the morning of **Friday, Oct. 18**. It will be temporarily replaced with an open-top dumpster in Dock 2 for the weekend. We anticipate minimal disruption to standard workflows during this transition.

On **Saturday, Oct. 19**, San-I-Pak will be on-site with a flatbed semi-trailer to remove the existing sterilizer, a process expected to take several hours. Republic Services will return on **Monday, Oct. 21**, to remove the open-top dumpster and reinstall the compactor.

The refurbishment of the San-I-Pak sterilizers is projected to take 12 to 14 months. We will keep you informed as we approach the timeline for reinstallation. If you have any questions, please reach out to HITeam@dhha.org.

Traffic advisory: Asphalt replacement on Seventh Avenue

Construction to replace asphalt is set for **8 a.m.-5 p.m.** on **Oct. 25-26** and will affect traffic on Seventh Avenue south of Pavilion C, where traffic will be reduced to one lane. Traffic control personnel will be on-site to assist. Please reach out to the **Engineering Office** at **303-602-2420** with any questions or concerns. We appreciate your patience during this necessary work.



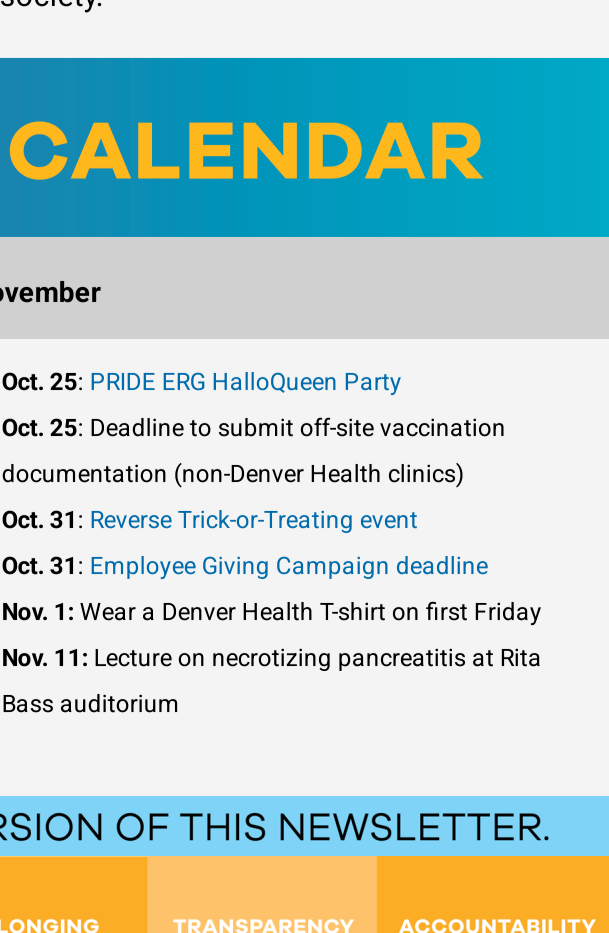
RECOGNIZING YOU

Rose Anodom Health Center helps survivors of domestic violence

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we're highlighting the Denver Health Rose Anodom Health Center, a primary care clinic within the Rose Anodom Center, a family justice center dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic violence. This center unites community and government agencies to provide trauma-informed advocacy and support for survivors and their families.

The health center is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The clinic is staffed by a medical provider, **Meg Whitehouse, NP**, a behavioral health provider, **Gabby Pantalena, LCSW**, and a medical assistant, which is a float position. In the second quarter of this year, the health center had 195 patient visits. Referrals can be made via Epic order or by calling the clinic line at 720-337-4419. Thank you for helping us raise awareness and support this vital resource during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

LUNA ERG celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



This year's Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations at Denver Health, hosted by the LUNA Employee Resource Group, were filled with meaningful moments and cultural enrichment. The festivities kicked off with a Loteria Fundraiser, followed by a thought-provoking Lunch and Learn session on imposter syndrome.

A key takeaway from these events was the recognition that Hispanic heritage encompasses many different cultures, each bringing unique perspectives and experiences to the Denver Health community.

[Watch this video to see how leaders from across Denver Health celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month.](#)

Recognizing health care awareness dates in October

This month, let's shine a light on vital health topics, celebrate the unwavering dedication of health care professionals and recognize special observances in their honor. Together, we can learn, share, and grow, all while acknowledging the commitment of those who care for our well-being. Among the dates is **Sterile Processing Week, Oct. 13-19**. Join Denver Health in celebrating our committed sterile processing professionals who are integral in supporting patient safety and quality patient care.

[Read more](#)

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Orthopedics research addresses publication diversity

Denver Health's learning health system is anchored by research that supports and shapes high-quality and equitable care. The Department of Orthopedics, led by **Cyril Mauffrey, MD, FRCS, FACS**, has published two papers addressing diverse representation in the writing and publishing of research, which has grown considerably over the past several years.

"**Enhancing Orthopaedic surgery research: developing manuscripts using systematic checklists**" empowers orthopedic researchers, and researchers in general, with a simple framework for writing a research manuscript using checklists and general research knowledge. "**Validation of a novel system to quantify authorship diversity in orthopaedic surgery literature**" creates and validates a comprehensive author diversity scoring system that quantifies authorship diversity in orthopedic manuscripts.

"Diversity among researchers globally is crucial in growing the evidence base for care," Dr. Mauffrey said. "These papers address diversity in authorship and access for professionals who may not have the background or knowledge of where to start when writing a clinical paper."

GET INVOLVED

Join free lecture on necrotizing pancreatitis

Mark your calendars for a special lecture from **9-10 a.m.** on **Monday, Nov. 11**, in the Rita Bass auditorium. We are pleased to host Jeff Johnson, MD, acute care and trauma, medical director at Henry Ford Hospital, as our first visiting professor for the Emergency General Surgery Program. Dr. Johnson will present "**Necrotizing Pancreatitis: What Could Go Wrong?**" Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a leading expert in the field.

Office of Research hosting gift drive for foster kids

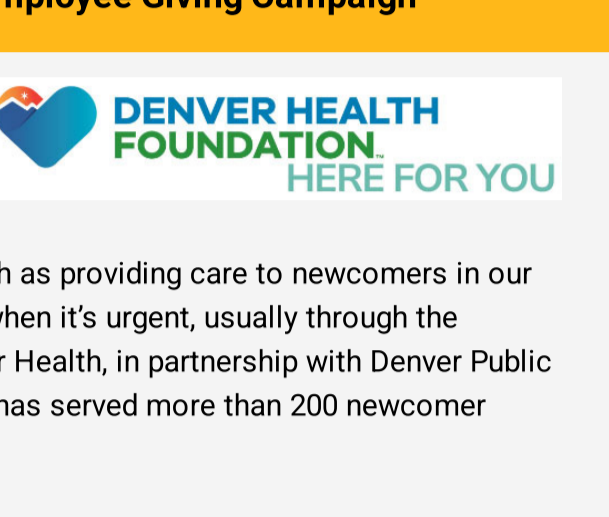
On **Wednesday, Oct. 30**, the Office of Research will hold its third annual birthday gift drive via **Foster Fete** to benefit Denver Health's **Connections for Kids Clinic**, a medical home for children in welfare custody, at the Bernard F. Gipson Eastside Family Health Center. The clinic is run by **Denver Health physician and researcher James Kaferly, MD**. Foster Fete provides birthday bags to kids needing some extra support around their birthdays.

"Denver Health is the primary medical care center for all of Denver's foster and kinship youth, so Connections for Kids cares for a particularly vulnerable population," said **Sheri Anderson, manager of cash operations**. "Taking the time to give birthday bags to these kids is a small but significant way we can celebrate them on a special day that can easily get swept aside in the context of their lives."

Email the [Office of Research](#) to give to this worthwhile drive.

Difficult conversations topic of upcoming Schwartz Rounds panel

Schwartz Rounds offers health care providers a regularly scheduled time to openly and honestly discuss the social and emotional issues they face in caring for patients, with a focus on the human dimension of medicine. The Schwartz Rounds mission is to promote compassionate health care and strengthen the relationship between patients and caregivers. The Schwartz Rounds committee will host a **panel called "Psychological Safety in Difficult Conversations"** from **8-9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23**, in the Sabin classroom in the basement of Pavilion C and virtually using [this Webex link](#). All staff are welcome. Learn more on the [Pulse](#).

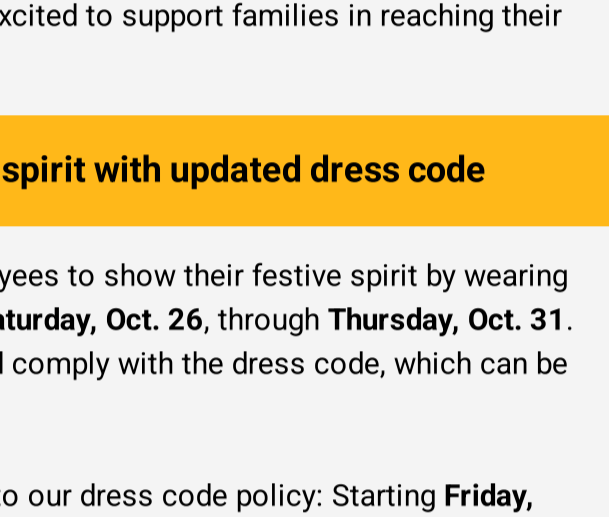


If you'd like to be added to the Schwartz Rounds distribution list and receive calendar invites for future panels, email DHSchwartzRounds@dhha.org.

FEATURED JOBS

Discover the latest career opportunities at Denver Health

This week's featured job is **phlebotomist**. Take advantage of our Employee Referral Program and refer a friend for 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

Obstetrics and Gynecology team 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 Obstetrics and Gynecology team.

"The doctors and nurses definitely make sure you are getting the care you need! They are all so sweet and answer every question you could possibly have, while making sure you don't feel out of place for asking any type of question! From my experience it was amazing and they took such good care of me and my child! They also know how to ease your nerves when going into labor or having a C-section!"

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.

Denver Health warns it may pull out of city contracts
Oct. 17, *The Denver Post*
Donna Lynne, CEO of the financially struggling Denver Health, told a City Council committee Wednesday that the possibility of dropping one or more contracts was "on the table" because the city refused to include some level of payment to cover indirect costs, such as the time the system's information technology and human resources departments spend supporting workers at the jail and detox center.

Denver Health doctor discusses parents' mental health effect on kids
Oct. 16, *Fox31*
Eileen Chen, PsyD, psychologist at Denver Health, joined Fox31 to discuss the unique mental health challenges parents face in light of the Surgeon General's advisory naming parental mental health as an urgent public health issue.

Leg Strength May Support Brain Health as You Age
Oct. 15, *Verywell Health*
Finding a way to make exercise convenient for you will make it easier to stick with a new routine. "We just have to change what we initially think of as exercise and just promote activity throughout the day," **Maegan Olivos, PT, a board-certified specialist in geriatric physical therapy at Denver Health**, said.

Denver Health honors Former Mayor Federico Peña with portrait unveiling
Oct. 14, *CBS Colorado*
"I'd like to focus on the extraordinary dignity that Mayor Peña has exhibited throughout his life to champion those who are underserved. This is always what has guided him — lifting others who are less fortunate," **Denver Health CEO Donna Lynne** said. "And this, of course, is what Denver Health does. We honor the dignity and humanity of everyone we serve, especially those who are often marginalized by society."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October | November

- Oct. 17:** Trauma-Responsive Care Workshop
- Oct. 19:** Broadway Halloween Parade
- Oct. 21:** Open enrollment begins
- Oct. 22:** RESTORE Group Support: Workplace Safety Concerns
- Oct. 23:** Schwartz Rounds: Psychological Safety in Difficult Conversations
- Oct. 23:** RESTORE Group Support: Newcomer Humanitarian Crisis
- Oct. 25:** PRIDE ERG HalloQueen Party
- Oct. 25:** Deadline to submit off-site vaccination documentation (non-Denver Health clinics)
- Oct. 31:** Reverse Trick-or-Treating event
- Nov. 1:** Employee Giving Campaign deadline
- Nov. 1:** Wear a Denver Health T-Shirt on first Friday
- Nov. 11:** Lecture on necrotizing pancreatitis at Rita Bass auditorium

CLICK HERE FOR A PDF VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

Denver Health VALUES	RESPECT	BELONGING	TRANSPARENCY	ACCOUNTABILITY
how we do it.				

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.

[View this email in your browser](#)

Note: Links to the Pulse will only work when you are connected to the Denver Health network.