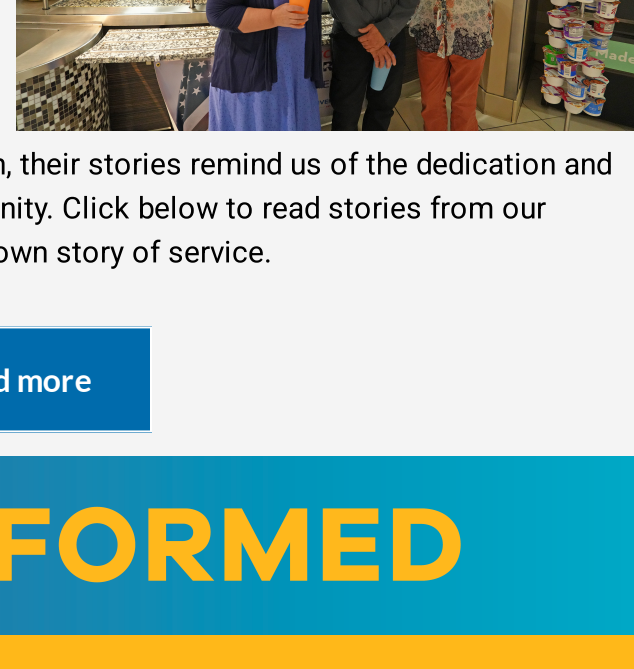


Thursday, November 14, 2024

Honoring veterans at annual breakfast

Denver Health thanked those who have served our country by serving them country gravy with biscuits, eggs, bacon, sausage and more at the annual Veterans Day employee breakfast on Monday. We asked our employees who are veterans to share their experiences, and photos, from their time in the military. Whether it's a mission during Desert Storm or a life-changing moment in an earthquake in Japan, their stories remind us of the dedication and resilience that veterans bring to our community. Click below to read stories from our veterans and learn how you can share your own story of service.

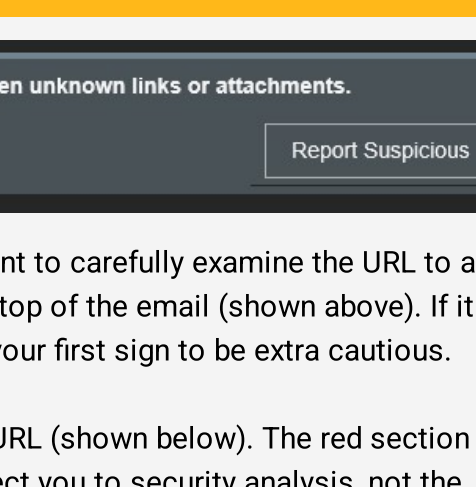


[Read more](#)

STAY INFORMED

Access restrictions for embargoed countries

As a reminder, we cannot take Denver Health devices to or attempt to connect from embargoed countries due to both security and compliance reasons. These countries are subject to U.S. government sanctions and connecting from these regions poses significant risks.



- 1. Security risks:** Many of these countries are considered adversaries of the U.S. and have extensive surveillance programs that could compromise our data. Protecting patient and organizational information is our top priority, and these security risks make such connections unsafe.
- 2. Compliance issues:** We are also bound by software agreements and export control regulations. Certain technologies we use — such as sensitive software, encryption tools, and other protected technologies — cannot be legally transferred or accessed from these countries.

For more details on the embargoed countries list and restrictions, you can refer to [this link](#). We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Tips to stay safe from phishing

This Message Is From an External Sender. Do not click or open unknown links or attachments.

[Report Suspicious](#)

When you receive an email with a link, it's important to carefully examine the URL to avoid phishing scams. First, look for the gray bar at the top of the email (shown above). If it says the email is from an external sender, this is your first sign to be extra cautious.

When you hover over a link, you'll see a complex URL (shown below). The red section highlights our email security platform and will direct you to security analysis, not the actual URL. The green section shows the real URL. Focus on this part to see if the sender's address and the URL match. If they don't, or if the URL is just a number (e.g., <https://8.8.8.8>), don't click it — this is likely a phishing attempt.

<https://8.8.8.8> [https://info.usf.com/ust-productlaunch-reception_?fllh-ubG4xQlkhFgwmv_XEzRau1tHFrde0195hA4shuZyITSF95bMMFLU1xKDUDV0lhwT2coWvN6wUUpYpY-oR6vNanTFqrK2IE0\\$](https://info.usf.com/ust-productlaunch-reception_?fllh-ubG4xQlkhFgwmv_XEzRau1tHFrde0195hA4shuZyITSF95bMMFLU1xKDUDV0lhwT2coWvN6wUUpYpY-oR6vNanTFqrK2IE0$)

If you're ever unsure, use the "Report Suspicious" button at the top of the email. This will send the email to the IT security team for review. If it was a phishing exercise, you will receive an automated notification. Remember, this banner will only appear when the email is from an external sender.

Stay vigilant and help keep Denver Health secure.

Antibiotic Awareness Week and new diagnostic excellence program

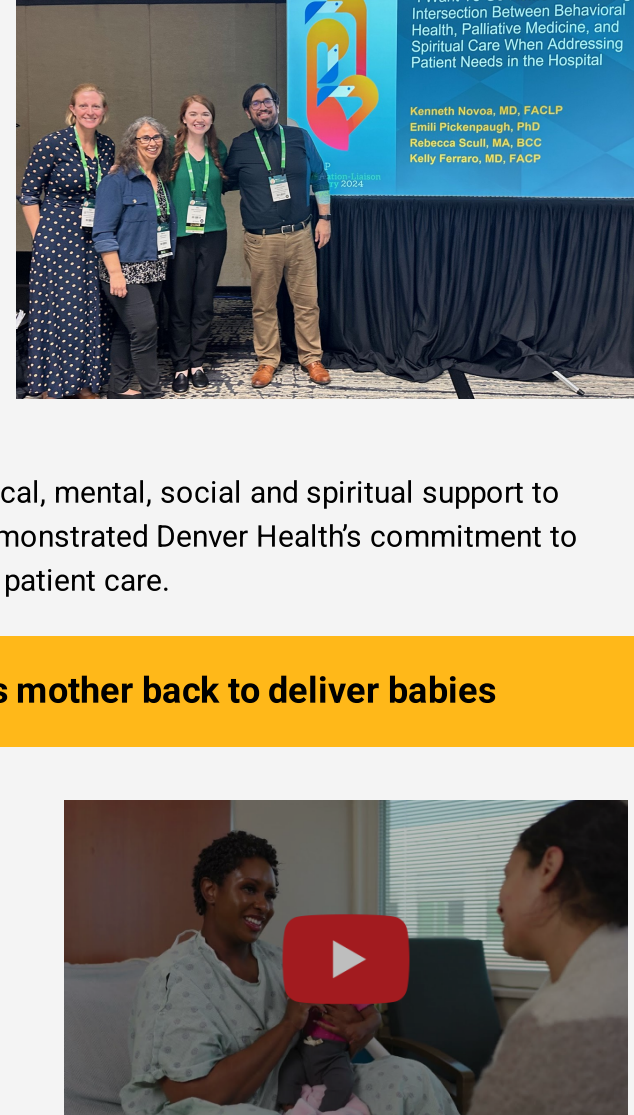
Denver Health is launching a new Diagnostic Excellence Program to support more accurate testing, enhance clinical decision-making and improve patient outcomes. This initiative is a collaboration between our Microbiology Laboratory, Antibiotic Stewardship and Infection Prevention teams and aims to ensure patients receive the right test at the right time, leading to optimized antibiotic use and timely treatment.

The program team will work closely with clinicians, pharmacists, nurses and other staff over the coming months to gather input and develop tools that improve diagnostic practices. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 800,000 deaths or permanent disabilities occur each year in the U.S. due to diagnostic errors, emphasizing the need for precision in testing.

U.S. Antibiotic Awareness Week, **Nov. 18-24**, serves as a reminder of the role each of us plays in fostering responsible antibiotic use to safeguard public health.

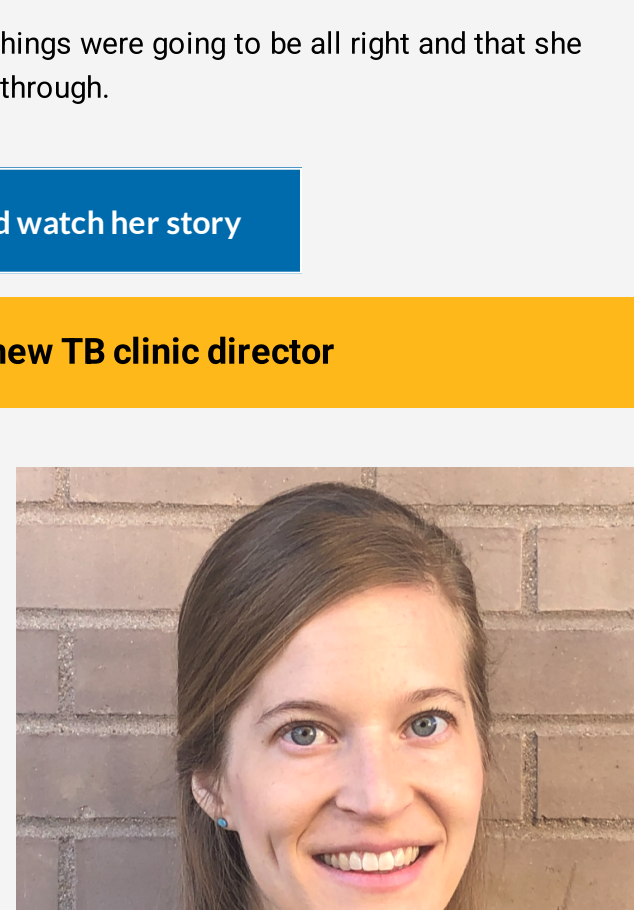
Celebrate the season at our employee Holiday Brunch

The 2024 Holiday Brunch will be held in the **Good Day Café** from **5-10 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4**. All employees are invited to stop by for a free meal to celebrate the season. For departments with employees who can't make it to the café, a skip-the-line option is available. [Click here to register for bulk meal pickup for groups of 25 or more.](#)



Safety tips for holiday travel

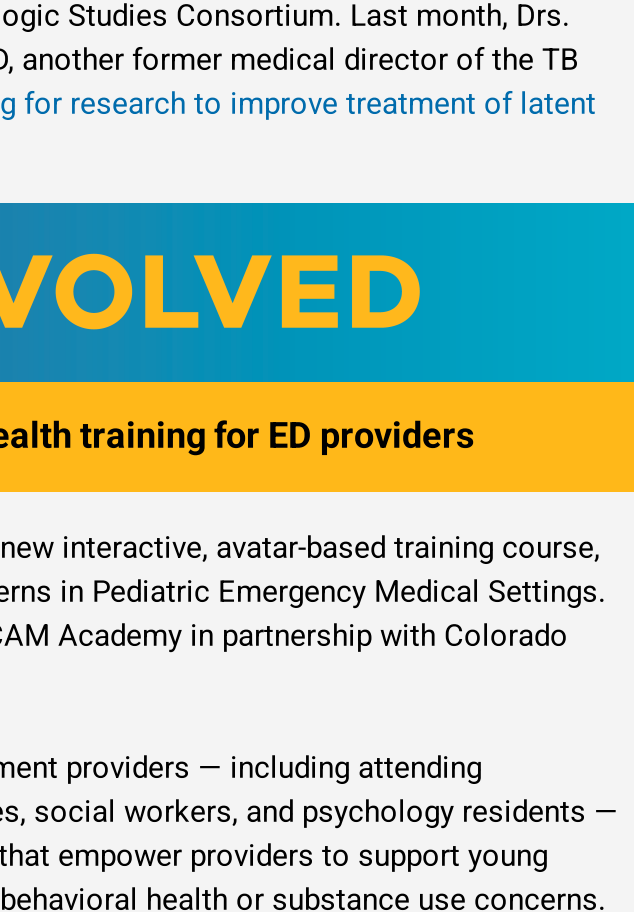
Winter weather and holiday travel can be unpredictable, but with a little preparation, you can stay safe on the road. From checking your car's condition to planning ahead for traffic and avoiding distractions, there are simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your passengers. Want to learn more? [Click below for tips on how to prepare for a smooth, safe journey this winter.](#)



[Learn more](#)

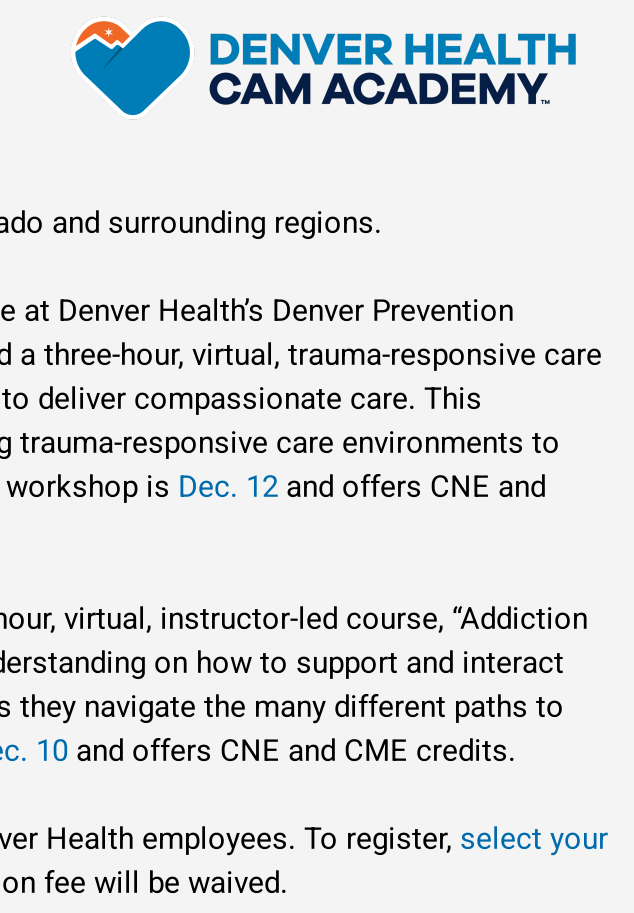
PCU nurses pack PowerSacks for kids in need

Last week, nurses from the Progressive Care Unit (PCU) volunteered to help pack PowerSacks with Food for Thought Denver. This volunteer-driven organization meets every Friday to prepare bags of non-perishable food for 26,000 elementary students at 75 schools across Denver. The initiative ensures kids have enough to eat over the weekend. To learn more, visit [Childhood Hunger Denver | Food For Thought](#).



Bariatric Surgery Center included in Newsweek's 2025 list

Our **Denver Health Bariatric Surgery Center** has made Newsweek's list of **America's Best Weight Loss Clinics & Centers 2025!** "We are honored to be the only Bariatric Surgery Center in Colorado included on the list," said **Alex Morton, MD, director of the Denver Health Bariatric Surgery Center**. "This award is a testament to our dedicated care team, offering the best quality care to our patients."



[Read more](#)

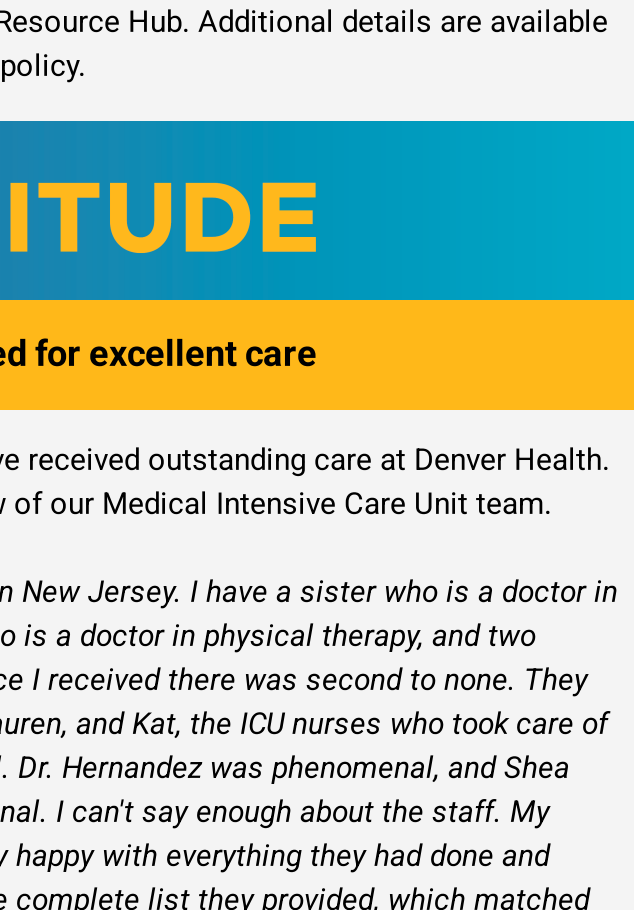
Therapy dog joins epilepsy units to support patients

We're excited to welcome Leo, a trained therapy dog from Canine Assistants, to our team. Leo will be visiting patients in the pediatric and adult epilepsy monitoring units, offering comfort and companionship to those affected by seizures. **Patrick Justus**, Leo's handler and educator for the Neurodiagnostic Department, will be accompanying him on his rounds. This partnership brings a unique level of support to our patients and their families, and we're so grateful to have Leo and Patrick as part of our care team. Be sure to say hello when you see them in the halls.



Teams showcase whole patient care at national psychiatry conference

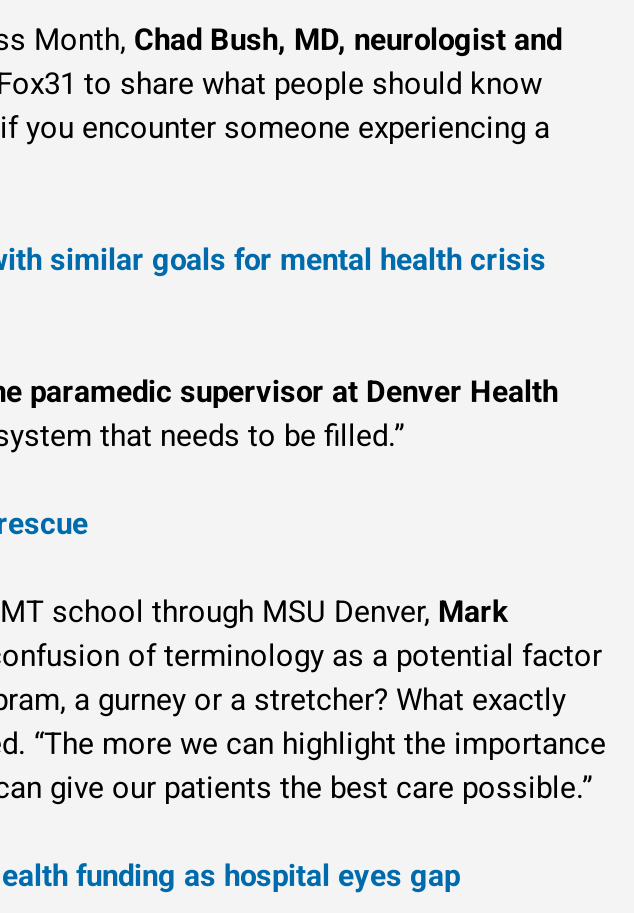
Denver Health's Palliative Medicine, Psychiatry, Psychology and Spiritual Care teams presented at the Academy of Consult Liaison Psychiatry conference in Miami, showcasing their innovative approach to whole patient care. **Division Chief of Palliative Medicine Kelly Ferraro, MD; Psychologist Emili Pickenbaugh, PhD, and Associate Chair of Psychiatry Ken Novoa, MD**, along with **Director of Spiritual Care Rebecca Scull**, highlighted the collaboration of



their teams to provide comprehensive physical, mental, social and spiritual support to hospitalized patients. Their presentation demonstrated Denver Health's commitment to excellence, compassion and stewardship in patient care.

Trust in Denver Health brings mother back to deliver babies

Trust, safety and an expression of genuine care are three things Nikita Palmer said she experienced the first time she gave birth at Denver Health several years ago. Since then, she's come back for the births of three more children, and each time she said the experience has been the same.



"I come to Denver Health because I just feel comfortable and safe and I just feel like I can trust my providers here."

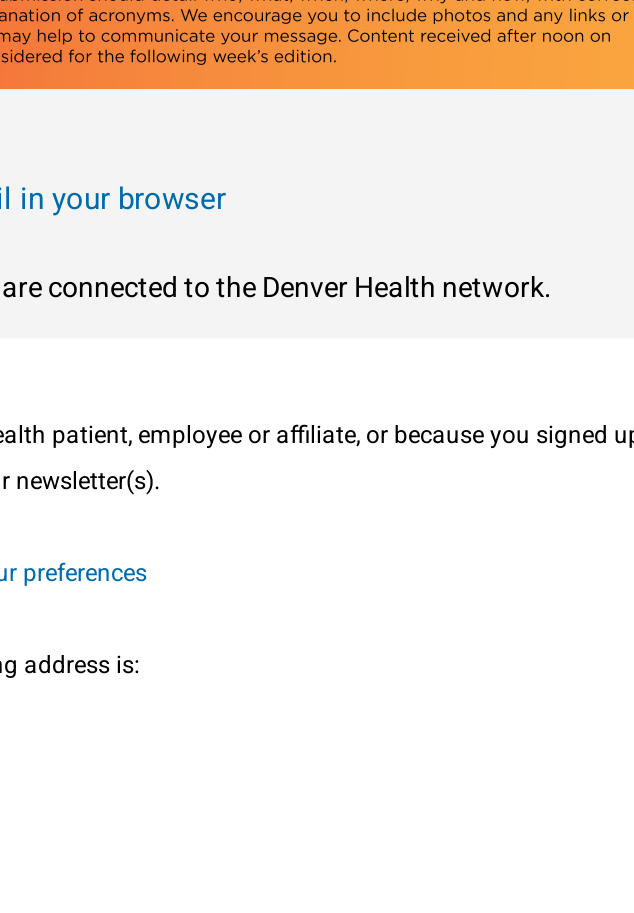
We caught up with the Denver mother a few months after the birth of her newest daughter, Nikari, last spring, a pregnancy that had a few complications.

Through it all, she said she always felt like things were going to be all right and that she received the support she needed to make it through.

[Learn more and watch her story](#)

PHIDH welcomes new TB clinic director

Congratulations to the newest addition to the leadership team at the Public Health Institute at Denver Health (PHIDH): **Amy Beeson, MD**, is the new **medical director of the Denver Health Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic**. She previously trained and worked in Peru and South Africa and served as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Beeson succeeds PHIDH **Executive Director Bob Belknap, MD**, who led the clinic for 11 years and recently served as chair of the Health and Human Services Advisory Council for the Elimination of TB.



The Denver Health TB Clinic is the largest and only categorical TB program in Colorado. As part of the work of our

learning health system, the clinic has a longstanding tradition of generating research to improve TB treatment, including its participation in the international Tuberculosis Trials Consortium and the Tuberculosis Epidemiologic Studies Consortium. Last month, Drs. Belknap and Beeson, with Randall Reeves, MD, another former medical director of the TB Clinic, published an opinion piece [advocating for research to improve treatment of latent tuberculosis infection](#).

GET INVOLVED

New pediatric behavioral health training for ED providers

We are excited to announce the launch of a new interactive, avatar-based training course, Behavioral Health and Substance Use Concerns in Pediatric Emergency Medical Settings. This course, developed by Denver Health's CAM Academy in partnership with Colorado Access, is now available.

Designed specifically for emergency department providers — including attending physicians, medical residents, interns, nurses, social workers, and psychology residents — this one-hour training offers four scenarios that empower providers to support young patients presenting to emergency care with behavioral health or substance use concerns.

Don't miss out on this engaging resource. [Click here to learn more and take the course](#). For any questions, please reach out to CAMAcademy@dhha.org.

Trauma-responsive workshops now available

Denver Health's Center for Addiction Medicine Academy provides training and technical assistance on trauma-responsive substance use disorder treatment for Colorado and surrounding regions.

In partnership with the Public Health Institute at Denver Health's Trauma Prevention Training Center, CAM Academy has launched a three-hour, virtual, trauma-responsive care workshop to increase knowledge and skills to deliver compassionate care. This workshop will provide strategies for creating trauma-responsive care environments to foster healing in the patients we serve. This workshop is **Dec. 12** and offers CNE and CME credits.

CAM Academy is also starting a new three-hour, virtual, instructor-led course, "Addiction Medicine 101." It provides a foundational understanding on how to support and interact with patients with substance use disorder as they navigate the many different paths to recovery. This course will be **Nov. 19** and **Dec. 10** and offers CNE and CME credits.

Both courses are offered at no cost for Denver Health employees. To register, [select your preferred course date here](#) and the registration fee will be waived.

RECOGNIZING YOU

Recognizing health care awareness during November

This November, 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](#)

FEATURED JOBS

Discover the latest career opportunities at Denver Health

This week's featured job is **Charge Nurse - Operating Room, night shift**. 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 offered, 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

MICU 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 Medical Intensive Care Unit team.

"I could not have gotten better care if I lived in New Jersey. I have a sister who is a doctor in nursing, a daughter who is a doctor, a son who is a doctor in physical therapy, and two nephews in my family. Besides them, the service I received there was second to none. They were phenomenal. I remember Alex, Anna, Lauren, and Kat, the ICU nurses who took care of me. Kelly, the nurse in charge, was wonderful. Dr. Hernandez was phenomenal, and Shea Hogan, MD, who saved my life, was phenomenal. I can't say enough about the staff. My cardiologist, when I got home, was absolutely happy with everything they had done and everything they had reported back to him—the complete list they provided, which matched with my own records. I just thank them very much for everything."

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.

Neurologist at Denver Health talks about National Epilepsy Awareness Month
Nov. 13, FOX31
In recognition of National Epilepsy Awareness Month, **Chad Bush, MD, neurologist and epilepsy specialist at Denver Health**, joined Fox31 to share what people should know about the condition and what you should do if you encounter someone experiencing a seizure.

San Antonio vs. Denver: Different systems with similar goals for mental health crisis response
Nov. 13, ABC San Antonio
"We're giving people hope," **Alan Moreland, the paramedic supervisor at Denver Health Medical Center**, said. "This is the gap in the system that needs to be filled."

Simulated disaster provides a road map for rescue
Nov. 11, MSU Denver
As a primary instructor for Denver Health's EMT school through MSU Denver, **Mark Whittight** echoed this sentiment and noted confusion of terminology as a potential factor contributing to patient-handoff error. "Is it a pram, a gurney or a stretcher? What exactly does 'triage' mean in this situation?" he asked. "The more we can highlight the importance of communication integration, the more we can give our patients the best care possible."

Denver votes in favor of additional Denver Health funding as hospital eyes gap
Nov. 10, FOX31
"The voters of Denver have shown without a doubt that health care is a critical component of a vibrant and dynamic city," said **CEO Donna Lynne** in a press release about the measure passing. "I'm excited that this supportive funding will help us to invest in our people, our infrastructure and our technology year-after-year."

Denver Health was losing 90% of N₂O to leaks. So it cut the gas.
Nov. 8, The Colorado Sun
"Knowing that I'm already contributing to that greenhouse warming problem, this feels so good," **Amanda Deis, MD, a pediatric anesthesiologist at Denver Health**, said, "knowing that we can make one system change to really minimize our footprint while still making this medication available to patients."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November | December

- Nov. 19:** RESTORE Group Support: Black/African-American Affinity
- Nov. 19:** Addiction Medicine 101
- Nov. 19:** Health Equity Lecture Series
- Nov. 23:** Turkey Fest Giveaway (Lowry Family Health Center and Rita Bass Trauma and EMS Education Institute)
- Nov. 26:** RESTORE Group Support: Workplace Safety Concerns
- Nov. 27:** RESTORE Group Support: Newcomer Humanitarian Crisis
- Dec. 4:** Holiday Brunch in Good Day Café (5-10 a.m.)
- Dec. 12:** Trauma-responsive care workshop
- Dec. 10:** Addiction Medicine 101

[CLICK HERE FOR A PDF VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.](#)

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

SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE WEEKLY 411. Submit content for consideration in the Weekly 411 through the employee outreach request form tabs. 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.

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