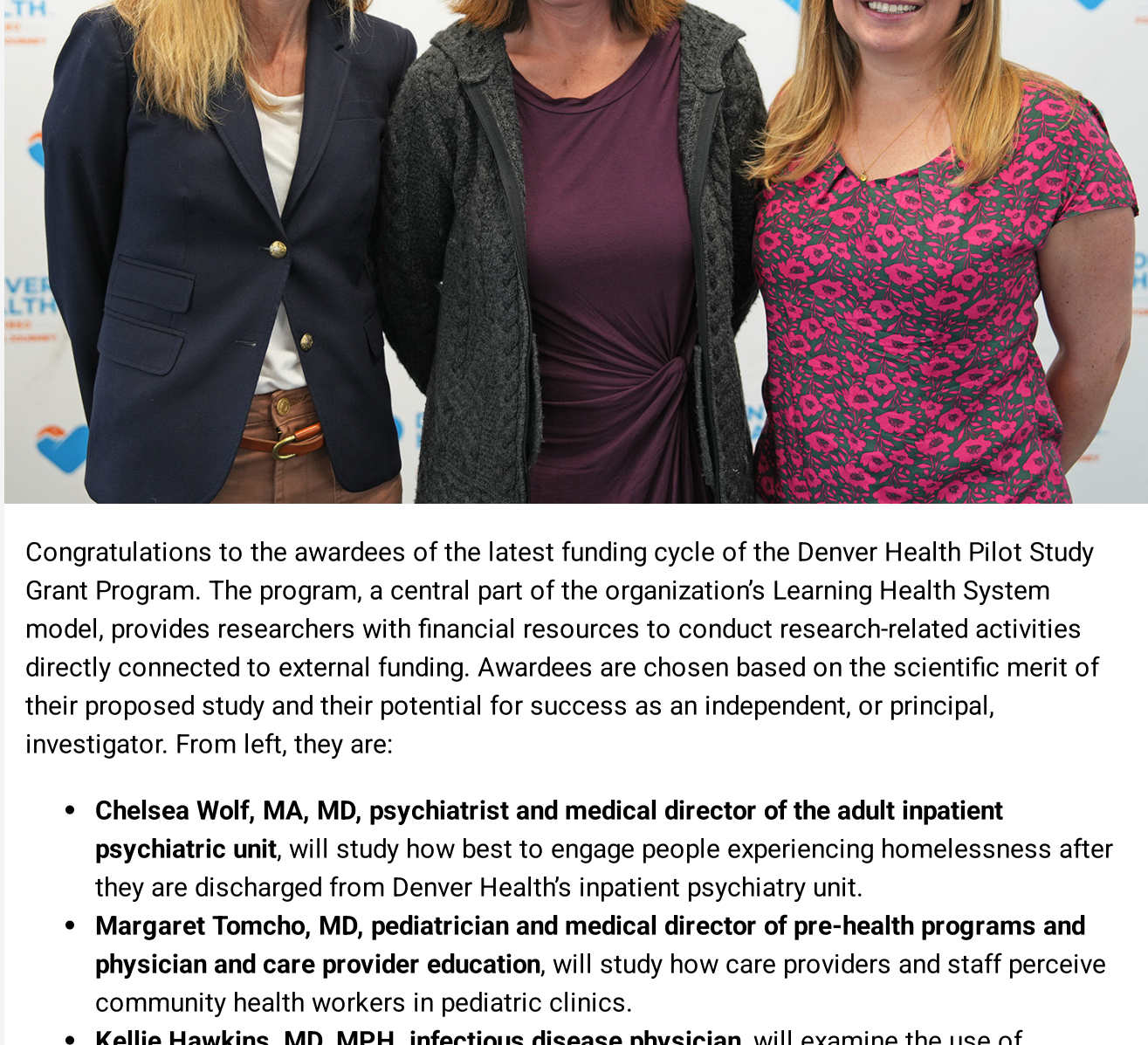


Thursday, April 4, 2024

## Latest Pilot Study Grant Program cycle awards researchers



Congratulations to the awardees of the latest funding cycle of the Denver Health Pilot Study Grant Program. The program, a central part of the organization's Learning Health System model, provides researchers with financial resources to conduct research-related activities directly connected to external funding. Awardees are chosen based on the scientific merit of their proposed study and their potential for success as an independent, or principal, investigator. From left, they are:

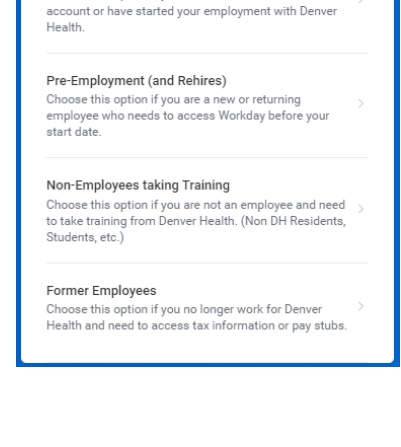
- **Chelsea Wolf, MA, MD, psychiatrist and medical director of the adult inpatient psychiatric unit**, will study how best to engage people experiencing homelessness after they are discharged from Denver Health's inpatient psychiatry unit.
- **Margaret Tomcho, MD, pediatrician and medical director of pre-health programs and physician and care provider education**, will study how care providers and staff perceive community health workers in pediatric clinics.
- **Kellie Hawkins, MD, MPH, infectious disease physician**, will examine the use of injectable HIV medications for people with complex social needs and barriers to care.

Be sure to follow Denver Health on [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) — and the [Office of Research](#) on LinkedIn — to learn more about these impactful studies.

## RECOGNIZING YOU

### Labor and Delivery, Mom-Baby units receive DHEMy Awards

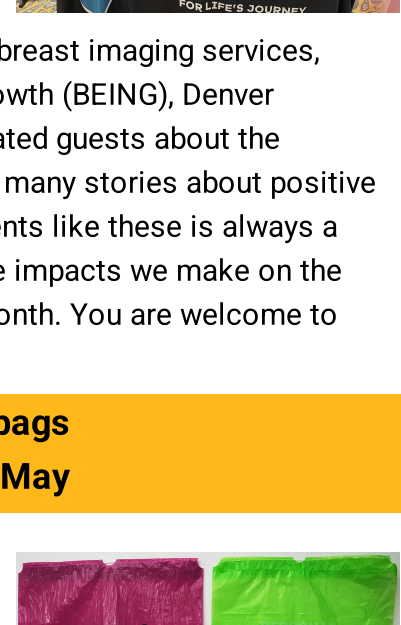
The 2023 Denver Health Excellence Matters Awards, representing outstanding performance in patient experience, were presented to the **Labor and Delivery** (pictured, top) and **Mom-Baby** (pictured, bottom) units on Wednesday. Denver Health leaders, including **Chief Experience Officer Amy Friedman**, **Chief Nursing Officer Kathy Boyle, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, OB Director of Quality and Associate Chair of Inpatient OB/GYN Stelka Fabbri, MD, and Administrative Director of OB/GYN and Inpatient Pediatrics Lucas Versteegen**, presented the "DHEmys" to team members in those units and thanked them for their incredible work, which was rated the highest in an inpatient setting on patient experience surveys throughout Denver Health last year. Other DHEMy winners for 2023 include the Comprehensive Care Unit, Urology Clinic, Emergency Department and Primary Care Clinic at the OMC.



## STAY INFORMED

### Enhancements to Workday: A fresh look, new features

As part of the semiannual system update of Workday, some enhancements have brought about changes in the functionality and appearance of the system. These changes include:



- The login screen has been expanded to accommodate different systems of users, offering more login options. Current employees should use the top "Denver Health Users" button.
- The "Career" app has been renamed to "Jobs Hub." In the Jobs Hub, you can find internal job opportunities and "My Referrals" for initiating a candidate referral to qualify for payment upon hire.
- The Workday Learning app has been added to the menu.

- The "Announcements" section has been moved near the top and now has a horizontal scrollbar. Here you'll find links to the Workday Resource Hub, jDXpert, Infor FSM and API.

- The Workday logo at the top of the screen has been replaced with the Denver Health heart logo. Clicking on this icon will take you to the homepage.

### Denver Health stands out at annual health expo

On **March 30**, Denver Health joined the Center for African American Health for its 23rd annual Collaborative Health Expo. Devoted volunteers from across Denver Health came together with the Mobile Health Centers' Community Outreach team to connect with attendees.



The mobile team helped sign up attendees for mammogram and breast imaging services, while our volunteer team from Black Excellence in Navigating Growth (BEING), Denver Health's Black/African American employee resource group, educated guests about the services and locations offered by Denver Health. The team heard many stories about positive and lifelong experiences with Denver Health. Volunteering for events like these is always a reminder of all the amazing work that Denver Health does and the impacts we make on the community every day. April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month. You are welcome to join us at other community events by [signing up here](#).

### Denver Health switches to green bags for patient belongings starting in May

Denver Health is introducing a change in the way we handle patients' personal belongings. Starting next month, new, slightly transparent green bags, instead of the well-known pink ones, will be provided to patients. The compliance-driven change aims to improve visibility and safety during the handling of patients' personal belongings.



### Transformative program reduces emergency visits for substance use patients

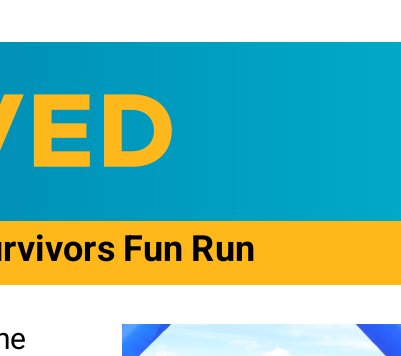
The Outpatient Behavioral Health Services team has developed the Access Transformative Outreach Program (ATOP), which has shown promising results in shifting the utilization patterns for patients with substance use disorders. Pictured from left, **Ashley Curry, MD, specialist physician, psychiatry**, and **Allison Forrest, LCSW, LAC, clinical social worker supervisor**, will present the program's findings at the 55th Annual Addiction Medicine and Science Conference from April 4-7 in Dallas.



[Learn more](#)

### Denver leaders and survivors unite for Start by Believing Day

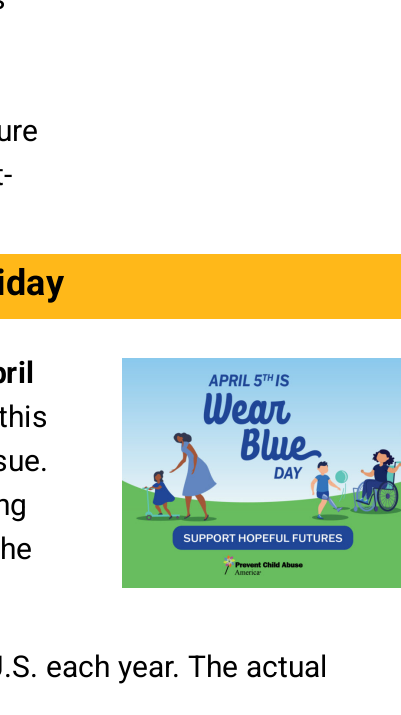
April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The first Wednesday in April marks the internationally recognized Start by Believing Day, which is a day to encourage everyone to "Start by Believing" the victims of sexual assault – as they would believe any other victim of crime.



[Read more](#)

### April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

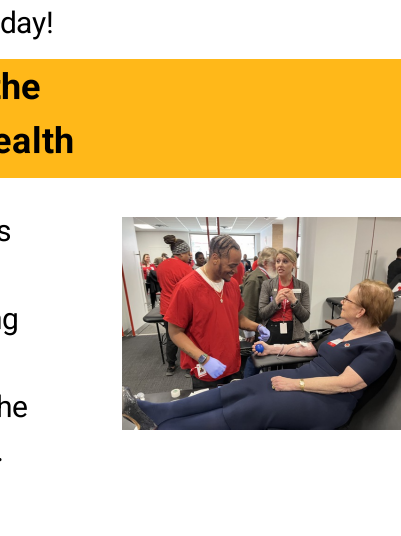
Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of crashes and deaths in Colorado, according to the Colorado Department of Transportation. Whether a person is distracted by looking away from the road, taking their hands off the wheel or thinking about something other than driving, engaging in any activity that diverts your full attention away from driving can have dangerous consequences. In honor of April being Distracted Driving Awareness Month, let's review the facts about distracted driving in Colorado and review tips for preventing this practice in your life.



[Read more](#)

### Obesity treatment: Medical therapy, weight loss medications and surgery

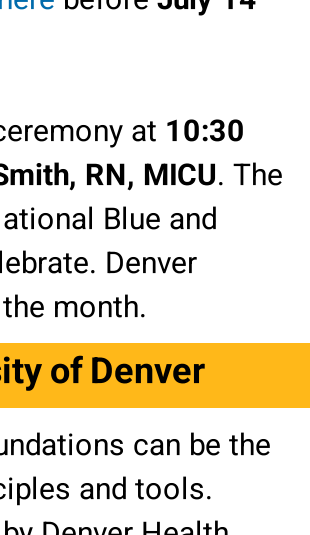
Do you know someone looking to embark on a weight loss journey? Share this recent blog post by **Sany Thomas, MD, general surgery physician**, on the various methods used to help individuals achieve their weight loss goals.



[Learn more](#)

### Denver Health welcomes esteemed visiting professor Mathieu Wijffels, MD, from the Netherlands

The Department of Surgery is excited to announce the visit of distinguished professor, **Mathieu Wijffels, MD**, from the Netherlands to Denver Health on **Tuesday, April 9**. Dr. Wijffels is a longtime colleague of **Fred Pieracci, MD, MPH, FACS, chair of Surgery**, through the Chest Wall Injury Society, and they have created a robust fellowship program between Rotterdam, Netherlands, and Denver, which is currently training its fourth student.



[Learn more](#)

## GET INVOLVED

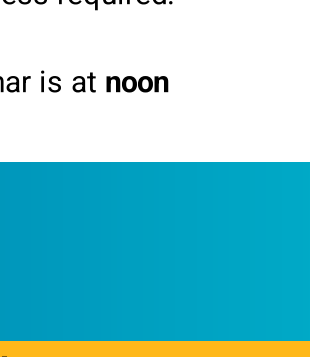
### Join a celebration of resilience at Trauma Survivors Fun Run

Denver Health Trauma and Orthopedics teams invite you to join the Denver Health Trauma Survivors Fun Run – a free 5K or 1-mile walk, run or wheel event on **Saturday, May 11**, at **Berkeley Lake Park, 4601 W 46th Ave, Denver, CO 80212**. The run, walk or wheel will start at **9 a.m.**, but we encourage participants to arrive at **8 a.m.** to check in, grab swag and listen to patients' and survivors' stories. Street parking and parking lots are available around the park. This community event will bring together trauma survivors, family members and caregivers to share stories, provide support and celebrate life. [Registration](#) must be completed by **April 15** to ensure your T-shirt size. Later registrations can pick up a T-shirt on a first-come, first-served basis.



### Stand against child abuse this Friday

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and on **Friday, April 5**, we invite you to participate in "Wear Blue Day." The purpose of this day is to show support and raise awareness for this important issue. We encourage you to take photos of yourself wearing blue clothing and use the hashtag [#WearBlueDay2024](#) on social media to join the nationwide wave of support.



It's estimated that more than 600,000 children are abused in the U.S. each year. The actual number is typically underreported. Other notable facts include:

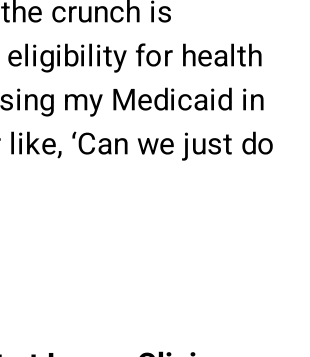
- 28% of child maltreatment victims are less than 2 years old.
- Neglect is the most common form of abuse with 76% of reported victims, followed by physical abuse at 16%, sexual abuse at 10% and sex trafficking at 0.2%.
- Most child victims are abused by a parent or caregiver.

Thank you to the many departments across Denver Health that contribute to recognizing and treating child abuse, including our wonderful primary care physicians and primary care clinics, Pediatric Emergency Department and Urgent Care, Psychiatric Emergency Services, Inpatient care units, Denver SAFE Center and Outpatient Behavioral Health Services, where children can receive care after being identified.

Show your support and make a difference by wearing blue this Friday!

### You can now donate blood with the American Red Cross at Denver Health

**Denver Health CEO Donna Lynne** joined Colorado Gov. Jared Polis and leaders from the American Red Cross (ARC) at a [press conference and ribbon-cutting](#) on Monday to celebrate the opening of the ARC's first blood donation center in Colorado. The ARC supplies 90% of Denver Health's blood products, and this marks the first time those products can be donated locally through the ARC.



[Learn more](#)

### Celebrate Donate Life Month with special events in April

Denver Health will celebrate National Donate Life Month in April by raising awareness and paying tribute to those who have saved lives through organ, tissue and eye donation. On **April 11**, Denver Health staff will join Donor Alliance colleagues at the **Good Day Café** from **11 a.m.-3 p.m.** to promote awareness and answer questions. You can participate in a raffle to win a free racer entry to the 2024 Donor Dash. Even if you don't win, you can join our team, The Denver Healthies, for the 5K walk/run at Washington Park. Register [here](#) before **July 14** with code PARTNERS24 for a \$15 registration discount.

All staff are also invited to the third annual Denver Health Flag Raising ceremony at **10:30 a.m. Friday, April 12**, hosted by our **Donor Advisory Council Chair Amy Rubin, MICU**. The event will be at the Bannock garage flagpole. Our event coincides with National Blue and Green Day; all staff may wear a blue or green Denver Health T-shirt to celebrate. Denver Health will shine the blue and green spotlights on Pavilion A throughout the month.

### Sign up for Lean Foundations course through University of Denver

Now available as an online, hybrid learning opportunity, Classic Lean Foundations can be the first step in your Lean education. The course focuses on core Lean principles and tools. Through self-guided learning and interactive reflection sessions, hosted by Denver Health Lean Systems Improvement staff, you will learn to put the customer first and systematically problem-solve to make your processes more efficient and effective. Registration is completed for this class using the University of Denver Office of Health Informatics Professional Development Platform. If you are a Denver Health employee looking to attend register, please contact Denver Health Lean Academy ([leanacademy@dhha.org](mailto:leanacademy@dhha.org)) for more information and the discount code to eliminate the cost of the class. Key concepts include: Lean Waste, Continuous Improvement, Daily Management, Value Stream and Process Mapping, A3 Problem Solving, Standard Work and Visual Management.

- [April session](#)
- [May session](#)

### Maximize your retirement planning with Fidelity

Did you know you can schedule an appointment with a Fidelity retirement planner anytime by visiting [the Fidelity scheduler website](#)? A Fidelity retirement planner can meet with you virtually, by phone, or here on the Denver Health main campus. Upcoming on-campus dates (all times between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., unless noted):



- **Tuesday, April 16** - 601 Broadway, room 415, from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- **Friday, April 26** - Pavilion B, room B147, near RESTORE; badge access required.
- **Wednesday, May 8** - 601 Broadway, room 421.
- **Thursday, May 30** - Pavilion B, room B147, near RESTORE; badge access required.
- **Wednesday, June 5** - 601 Broadway, room 431.
- **Friday, June 28** - Pavilion B, room B147, near RESTORE; badge access required.

Fidelity also offers monthly educational web workshops. The next webinar is at **noon Wednesday, April 10**: [Prepare for the reality of health care in retirement](#).

## GRATITUDE

### Adult Urgent Care Center praised for excellent care

Hearing from patients who have received outstanding care at Denver Health is rewarding. This week, we would like to highlight a five-star online review of our incredible team at the Adult Urgent Care Center!

*"I recently visited the Denver Adult Urgent Care Center and was impressed by the exceptional care and service. The staff was friendly and efficient, the facility was modern and well-equipped and the medical team demonstrated expertise and empathy. Despite the urgent nature of my visit, I was seen promptly and the entire process was streamlined. I highly recommend the Denver Health Adult Urgent Care Center for their prompt, professional and compassionate medical attention."*

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.

**Medical Debt Affects Much of America, but Colorado Immigrants Are Hit Especially Hard**  
*April 3, KFF Health News*

**Amber Koch-Laking, MD, a family physician at Denver Health's Westwood Family Health Center**, said finances often come up in conversations with patients. Many patients try to get telehealth appointments to avoid the cost of going in person. Adding to the crunch is Medicaid "unwinding," the process of states reexamining post-pandemic eligibility for health coverage for low-income people, Koch-Laking said. "They say, 'Oh, I'm losing my Medicaid in three weeks, can you take care of these seven things without a visit?' Or like, 'Can we just do it over the portal, because I can't afford it?'"

**Healthy Development, Thriving Families**

*April 1, Assuring Better Child Health & Development*  
**Larissa Miller, MD, an infant Mental Health and Healthy Steps Specialist at Lowry Clinic** was featured this month in the Healthy Development, Thriving Families newsletter from Assuring Better Child Health & Development.

**Does Colorado's high elevation impact seasonal allergies?**

*April 1, Fox31*  
**Andi Hudler, MD, a pulmonologist at Denver Health**, said the high elevation in Colorado won't have a big effect on allergies other than the fact that it determines which plants and species grow. "Whether you live in the plains of Colorado versus the mountains, you are going to experience different allergens," Hudler said.

**Princess Kate's cancer diagnosis raises screening awareness**

*March 28, Fox31*  
**Denver Health oncologist Sandhya Sharma, MD**, spoke with Fox31 about the importance of cancer screening and treatment after Princess Kate announced she has cancer.

### National awareness and recognitions

April 7 is **World Health Day**, and April 10 is **National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**. April 11 is **Black Maternal Health Week**. Is there a department that you'd like us to recognize during a special week or month? Let us know in a [Marketing request form](#) and we'll spotlight them in the 411.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### April | May

- |                                                                                                           |                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>April 9:</b> Office of Research: Research Workshop<br>Series: "Disseminate Your Work to New Audiences" | <b>April 17:</b> Spanish financial workshop: Credit Scores          |
| <b>April 9:</b> Thoracic Injury: From Dust Til Dawn                                                       | <b>April 17:</b> RESTORE Group Support: Migrant Humanitarian Crisis |
| <b>April 10:</b> RESTORE free massage                                                                     | <b>April 22:</b> Meditation Monday                                  |
| <b>April 10:</b> RESTORE Group Support: Cumulative Stress & Burnout                                       | <b>May 2:</b> Children's Hospital Mobile Blood Drive at Rita Bass   |
| <b>April 12:</b> Wear a blue or green Denver Health T-shirt for National Blue and Green Day               | <b>May 7:</b> RESTORE Group Support: Grief & Loss                   |
| <b>April 12:</b> Denver Health flag raising event                                                         | <b>May 8:</b> Fidelity retirement planner on-campus                 |
| <b>April 16:</b> RESTORE Group Support: Black/African American Affinity                                   | <b>May 11:</b> Trauma Survivors Fun Run                             |
| <b>April 17:</b> Workday Wednesdays                                                                       | <b>May 13:</b> American Red Cross Blood donation                    |
|                                                                                                           | <b>May 30:</b> Fidelity retirement planner on-campus                |

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

<b>Denver Health VALUES</b> 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.

[View this email in your browser](#)

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