

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Emergency staff, providers to the rescue after downtown shootings

Denver Health first responders and medical teams came to the rescue early Tuesday morning following a shooting downtown that left 10 people injured, as fans were celebrating the Nuggets' first NBA championship. Denver Health Paramedics brought those injured to the Emergency Department, where multidisciplinary (emergency medicine, surgery, anesthesia and orthopedics), multispecialty (providers, nurses, techs and all support staff) trauma teams provided world-class, lifesaving care.



At-Risk Intervention and Mentoring (AIM) Program Manager Erica Green helped by seeing seven of those patients in the ED. AIM is a hospital-based violence intervention program using a public health approach that aims to stop the cycle of violence in the community and is one of the lead programs in the Denver Health Firearm Safety Collaborative.

Members of the Paramedic Division, trauma surgeons and ED physicians joined Denver's chief of police and the executive director of public safety for a media briefing Tuesday to discuss the response. Denver Health representatives in the photo are, from left to right, **Kerri Mason, MD, Jacob Nacht, MD, Barry Platnick, MD, Stephen Wolf, MD, Renaldo Williams, MD, Chief Paramedic Gary Bryskiewicz, and Eric Campion, MD. Deputy Chief Paramedic Brent Stevenson** also was in attendance. A special thanks to Bryskiewicz and Dr. Campion for speaking to reporters and the other providers who attended. See the media report below for links to some of the news stories from the briefing.

Denver Health medical teams also treated today's shooting victims during the Nuggets' celebratory parade downtown.

Denver Health paramedics help dozens at Nuggets parade

A huge thanks to the **Denver Health Paramedics** who staffed the NBA champion **Denver Nuggets'** celebration on Thursday along the parade route and at Civic Center Park. Paramedics from dispatch, the command center, vehicle support, EMT and bike team ensured the thousands of attendees got essential emergency medical services when needed. Thank you for your work behind the scenes to make sure everyone who needed care received it while they enjoyed the parade. Currently, our Denver Health medical teams are caring for a Denver police officer who was injured while assisting in the parade.



Staff show support for hometown NBA champions

Staff at Denver Health were proud to wear their Nuggets gear and cheer on our favorite basketball team during the NBA Finals. Seeing history being made in the Mile High City was a special treat for us all, and we look forward to next season as defending champions! Go Nuggets!



DENVER HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

Understanding bariatric surgery: Sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass

Bariatric surgery is a great option for people who have been unsuccessful in trying to lose weight by other methods, such as diet, exercise, structured programs and diet medications. **Denver Health's Bariatric Surgery Center** has helped thousands of patients achieve weight loss and better health. The center offers two options for bariatric surgery: the **sleeve gastrectomy** and the **Roux en Y gastric bypass**. **Bariatric surgeon Sany Thomas, MD**, recently wrote about the two types of surgeries and their major differences, which can be helpful to anyone considering the surgery.



Walk-in mammograms available to Denver Health employees

As part of **Denver Health Breast Imaging's** "Screening Fridays" — when we dedicate our clinic on the fifth floor of the Outpatient Medical Center to mammograms — the department is offering blocks of appointments just for employees from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on two upcoming Fridays: **June 23 and July 7**. The pilot employee screening Friday events will be limited to 50 patients on each day. Patients must register for one of the days by answering a few simple questions in this form and once accepted, you can walk in anytime within the 8 a.m.-2 p.m. window on the date you sign up for. You can always go to your MyChart or call **303-602-4140** to make an appointment anytime; appointments are usually available within a week. Look for members of the Breast Imaging team at the Days of Celebration BBQ next week, when they will hand out more information about their services.



Employee Mammography Screening Fridays: June 23 & July 7

LGBTQ+ Health Services in the spotlight this Pride Month

Fox31 Denver took a closer look at our LGBTQ+ Health Services recently by sitting down with **Cydney Brown**, a Denver Health LGBTQ+ education trainer. According to The Trevor Project, a suicide-prevention service, 45% of LGBTQ+ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in 2022. Hear more as Brown expands on struggles LGBTQ+ communities are facing and how affirming figures can help reduce suicide rates. Gender-affirming care is provided at all of our hospital clinics, including at our 19 School-Based Health Centers. Watch the video here and learn more at den.health/pride.



Community Health Dental Services help Special Olympians smile

A group from the Community Health Dental Services at Denver Health traveled June 10 to Grand Junction to volunteer for the Special Olympics Colorado State Summer Games. More than 200 athletes were screened for dental care, learned about oral hygiene and received fluoride applications and mouth guards. It was a memorable experience for the Denver Health dental team and they look forward to returning next year. Special thanks to **Nick Gagner, DMD, Amir Jafari, DMD, Denisse Aguilar-Gonzalez, CDA, Mandi Miller CDA, Jeanette Guardado CDA** and **Mayra Arenazas Delgado, CDA** (all pictured right) for representing Dental Services. Drs. Gagner and Jafari also received special recognition from the **Grand Junction Mayor Anna Stout** for their services.



School-based staff highlight new approaches to vaccine delivery

Two of Denver Health's school-based health center staff, **Karen Sosa-Sanchez, project coordinator for School-Based Virtual Care** and **Physician Assistant Joseph Rosas** presented at this month's Immunize Colorado Summit. The pair spoke during a segment titled "Thinking Beyond the Clinic," highlighting the challenges and opportunities of vaccine programs in a school setting and ways to improve vaccine delivery.



Rosas and Sosa-Sanchez also explained how school-based health care helps address barriers to care including lack of access in the community, vaccine hesitancy and lack of trust in the health care system.

Nineteen of Colorado's 70 school-based health centers are run by Denver Health. During the 2021-2022 school year, the clinics administered nearly 8,000 general vaccinations and almost 9,000 COVID-19 vaccinations and provided care to 13,000 students. Denver Public Schools and Denver Health have teamed up to offer virtual care through 32 sites; 15 more will be available once schools reopen in the fall.

STAY INFORMED

Beware phone phishing scams targeting health care professionals

Denver Health staff are advised to be cautious of phishing scams targeting health care professionals on people claiming to be authority figures. Recently, a Denver Health employee received a call on a personal cellphone from someone claiming to be a police sergeant following up on an allegedly fraudulent Medicaid claim.

Caller ID showed the name of a local police department and the faux sergeant had personal information about the nurse. The caller told the employee that an arrest warrant had been issued and to avoid being arrested immediate payment of a fee was required and would be reimbursed later if the charges were unfounded. The caller used a lot of legal jargon with the nurse and claimed to want to help avoid an arrest in an effort to get the payment.

Personal information regarding licensed health care professionals is readily available on the internet. Always take care that you know with whom you are speaking and, if necessary, end the conversation and call the agency directly to verify. Caller ID can be spoofed to show any organization, so it should not be taken at face value. Genuine law enforcement and government agencies never call to demand money or threaten arrest if payment is not made immediately. Be wary of any caller asking for personal information such as credit card numbers and bank details or is requesting money.

Annual education due by June 30

The window for employees to complete required annual Cornerstone education closes on **Friday, June 30**. Log in to Cornerstone to access and complete the eight modules, four of which have a pre-test option if you don't wish to retake the module. Timely completion of annual education promotes a healthy and safe work environment, allows us to provide the best care to patients, fosters an ethical, compliant culture of respect and excellence and keeps Denver Health in compliance with federal and state regulations.



If you have questions regarding annual education, please reach out to the Compliance team at Compliance@dha.org or call **303-602-0137**.

GET INVOLVED

Days of Celebration begin Monday

Days of Celebration—Denver Health's annual employee appreciation week—is coming up next week, **June 19-23**. Visit the [events calendar](#) and check back often as we continue to add details about the festivities. This year's "Proud" theme celebrates our pride in serving the community, delivering high-quality care, educating the next generation and working at Denver Health. Reserve time on your calendar so you can celebrate and connect with colleagues! Please remember to [register for a free fitness center trial](#) and for the [drawing to receive free scrubs](#) as part of our scrubs fair.



Guns turned to gardening tools at voluntary firearm surrender event

Nearly three dozen firearms, including four assault-style rifles, were safely dismantled at last weekend's Guns to Gardens voluntary safe firearm surrender event, which included volunteers from Denver Health and the wider public. The surrendered guns will be turned into garden tools for community projects.



Pictured are, from left, **Cooper Dayton**, who wanted to show support after receiving excellent care at Denver Health following a gunshot wound, **Elizabeth Clarke, MD, an internal medicine physician at Denver Health**, and **Sarah Urlacher**, a therapeutic case worker and peer responder for Denver Health RESTORE.

The event was held at the Curé d'Arms Catholic Church in Denver and is one of many initiatives now underway as part of the **Denver Health Firearm Safety Collaborative** recently organized to address the public health impact of gun violence.

Denver Health in the media

Denver Health media policy
 As a friendly reminder, all Denver Health media requests **must be coordinated and staffed** by a member of the Denver Health Marketing and Communications team. Thanks for working with us to promote all your great work, programs, projects, and initiatives to create a healthy community!

Paramedics ready to support fans during Nuggets parade and rally
 June 14, Fox31
Denver Health's Paramedic Division expects over 200,000 people to pack the 2023 Nuggets Champions Celebration. Paramedics are spreading out around the crowds.

Denver mass shooting after Nuggets' NBA Finals win likely stemmed from drug deal: police
 June 14, Yahoo News
Denver Health Paramedics transported ten people to our **emergency department**, and four of those patients required **trauma surgery**. "Every patient that went to the operating room had serious and life-threatening injuries," said Denver Health **chief surgeon Eric Campion, MD**.

Denver area gun owners donate unwanted firearms in exchange for gift cards
 June 10, Denver7
 Denver Health is among hospitals leading the path forward to take a comprehensive public health approach to firearm safety and supported this recent event with Guns to Gardens.

Colorado is getting hotter, but many residents lack access to indoor cooling
 June 12, Colorado Public Radio
 A new report calls on Colorado to help its most vulnerable residents prepare for extreme heat as the Earth warms. "There's a disparity in access to cooling," said **Elizabeth Gillespie, MD**, who is currently finishing her own research on extreme heat.

US: More Than 100 Young Children Suffered Seizures After COVID Vaccination According to Study
 June 10, Gulf Insider
 Researchers with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) analyzed health records from the Vaccine Safety Datalink, a CDC-funded network that features sites operated by **Denver Health** and other institutions.

Advocates let Mike Johnston know what they thought of his plan to solve homelessness in four years at roundtable discussion
 June 12, Denverite
Sarah Stella, MD, and **Sarah Rowan, MD**, both participated in this roundtable. **Dr. Rowan** said the bill is making a mistake if services are limited to people who don't use drugs. "Not everybody wants to be in recovery right now," Dr. Rowan said to Johnston. "If we only treat people who are in recovery, I think we'll still have homelessness at a pretty large scale."

National awareness and recognitions

June 18 is **Autistic Pride Day**. June 19 is **Juneteenth** and **World Sickle Cell Day**. Is there a department that you'd like us to recognize during a special week or month? Let us know in an [Employee Outreach Request form](#) and we'll spotlight them in the 411.

J u n e

- June 16:** RESTORE Group Support for Burnout
- June 17-18:** Juneteenth Music Festival
- June 19-23:** Days of Celebration
- June 19-25:** Fitness Center free trial (registration required by June 15)
- June 21-23:** Scrubs fair 7 a.m.-4 p.m. near Pav B gift shop
- June 22:** Nightshift BBQ
- June 23:** RESTORE Group Support: Black Affinity
- June 23:** Daytime BBQ
- June 23:** Walk-in mammograms for employees
- June 24:** Walk with a Doc
- June 27:** Lunch & Learn - Implicit biases and microaggressions towards LGBTQ+ communities
- June 30:** Cornerstone annual education training deadline

CLICK HERE FOR A PDF VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

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.

