

Thursday, October 13, 2022

## Flu shot deadline Nov. 1; exemptions needed by Friday



All Denver Health employees, contractors, volunteers, residents and students (including those who work from home) are required to receive a flu vaccination by Nov. 1. Employees may receive their flu vaccination on a walk-in basis at the COSH clinic on the seventh floor of the OMC from 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Documentation of offsite flu vaccinations, medical declinations or religious exemptions must be received by Friday, Oct. 14. Exemptions received after this date will not be accepted.

[Learn more](#)

## STAY INFORMED

### Update your benefits plan by Oct. 19

Open Enrollment is underway, and you have until Wednesday, Oct. 19 to update your benefit plans. Actions you can take include enrolling in or changing your benefit plans, enrolling in voluntary benefits, updating dependents in your plans, and enrolling in a medical or dependent care Flexible Spending Account (FSA) for 2023. The 2023 Employee Benefits Guide, Benefits Plan Summary, instructions on how to enroll and a schedule of open enrollment information tabling events are all available on [the Pulse](#). More information also is available on the [virtual benefits fair](#) website.



Enroll In Your Employee Benefits  
**OCTOBER 3-19**

[Learn more](#)

### October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

About 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men in the U.S. have been physically abused by an intimate partner. Domestic violence hotlines nationwide receive more than 20,000 phone calls a day. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, below are support groups to contact for safety planning and assistance. In addition, employees may use the [FNE/SANE team](#), which provides 24/7 support.

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline:** Call 800-799-7233 or text "START" to 88788.
- **Rose Andom Center:** Call 720-337-4400; the center offers safe house referrals, safety planning, protection orders, counseling, assistance with TANF and Medicaid, civil legal needs, job readiness training, referrals for transitional or permanent housing, and an on-site Denver Health clinic.
- **PorchLight:** Call 303-271-6100 or email [porchlight@jeffco.us](mailto:porchlight@jeffco.us); the family justice center provides comprehensive legal, emotional and critical supportive services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, abuse of at-risk individuals, elder abuse, and human trafficking.
- **Youhavetherightco.org:** The site provides information for victim advocates, law enforcement, mental health practitioners, and medical personnel to assist you in understanding the rights and options available to survivors your role in sexual assault response.

### Temporary bed closures allow for needed cost savings

Denver Health temporarily closed 21 of 31 beds on 6A recently, allowing us to decrease costly RN traveler positions while still maintaining Denver Health staff positions and the rehab specialty service provided on 6A. The unit will close as of today. Direct care staff will be able to transfer into vacant Denver Health positions. Patients from this unit will be re-located to other units, such as 3B Flex, 4C South or other Acute Care units as appropriate. We intend to re-open 6A as soon as regular staff positions are filled. This is a challenging time for hiring—not only at Denver Health, but throughout the health care system in general, and we ask for your support. If you have questions or thoughts on additional cost-saving measures, we encourage you to discuss those with your leader.

## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

### Employee Engagement Survey extended through Sunday

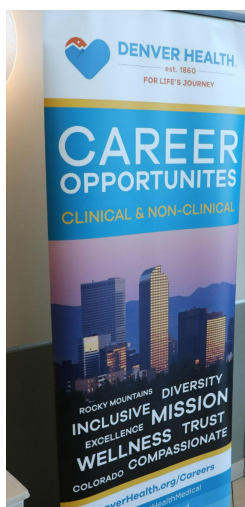
This is the final week to complete the 2022 Employee Engagement Survey. Our participation rates are lower than in the past for this stage of the survey: **67% participation for employees** and **55% participation for providers**. We encourage all staff to complete this year's survey. Receiving feedback from our staff is critical to the success of our organization. CEO Donna Lynne is committed to employee engagement. She is inviting five individuals who have completed the survey to have lunch with her one-on-one. At the close of the survey, a drawing will be held to announce the winners of lunch with Donna.

There are multiple ways to take the survey:

- **General links and QR codes** located in the [English](#) and [Spanish](#) FAQs on the Pulse.
- **QR codes** also located on posters across our campus.
- **Email invitation reminders** sent every three days (a.m./p.m. shifts) for anyone who has not completed the survey.

Please take a few moments to complete the survey today. Individual responses are completely confidential. Your leadership team is listening!

### Hiring events net 30 new colleagues



Two Denver Health career fairs took place in September and brought 30 new employees to our organization. Recruiting, Employee Relations, Benefits, Marketing, Paramedics, FANS, IT, Parking, Engineering and numerous individuals helped spread the word about the in-person and virtual career fairs and made the events successful. From candidate flow to extending same-day offers, these departments joined forces to attract and hire a diverse pool of candidates.

The recruitment team will continue monthly virtual hiring events. October's will focus on acute care nurses, CNAs and custodians. This event will have managers present to interview prospective candidates for positions to expedite the hiring process.

Help us Catch a Star! Refer your friends and those in your network to join Denver Health and earn up to \$3,000 when you refer a qualified individual to work with us. Remember to let your referral know to add your name when filling out the application.

## RECOGNIZING YOU

### Bariatrics team celebrates milestone in red-hot style

The Denver Health Bariatric Surgery Center reached 125 cases in a year for the first time on Wednesday, up from 102 cases in 2021. This has been the bariatric surgery team's goal for years, and the milestone allows the center to contract with all commercial payers. The team dressed up for a celebration on Thursday that included burning the sheet of paper with the 125 goal that had been hanging in Dr. Fredric Pieracci's office. Congratulations to the team!



### Volunteers, donations needed for pediatric event on Halloween

You can help make this year's pediatric trick-or-treat event the best ever by donating non-candy items or even your time.

The Child Life Recreation Room (formerly The Zone) will host the trick-or-treat sessions from 10-11 a.m. and 3-4 p.m. on Oct. 31 — Halloween. Volunteers will visit kids throughout the hospital and offer non-candy goodies so the kids can still have a Halloween to remember.

To volunteer for a trick-or-treating shift, [click here](#).

Hospital policies will be followed, and masks must be worn at all times. Costumes are welcome, but Halloween masks may not substitute for a medical mask.

Please put donations in the labeled boxes inside of Volunteer Services, C100, on the first floor of Pavilion C or in the pediatric administrative office, C204, on the second floor of Pav C. All donations should be received by Sunday, Oct. 23. Please contact [Ellen.Bower@dhha.org](mailto:Ellen.Bower@dhha.org) for questions.

#### Non-candy suggestions:

- Sunglasses
- Trick or treat buckets or bags
- Stickers/tattoos
- Stamps
- Crayons/markers
- Fidget spinners
- Pop Its
- Slime
- Small art/craft kits
- Silly putty
- Stress balls
- Bracelets
- Squishy balls
- Small plastic games
- ChapStick
- Glow sticks
- Playdough
- Bubbles

## REMEMBRANCES

### Celebration of life planned for longtime Denver Health volunteer



On Aug. 24, the Denver Health family lost a beloved patient and volunteer, Kathryn "Katie" Broeren. Katie was incredibly generous with her time and service to others, especially those in recovery and at Denver Health. She volunteered as a peer recovery specialist and was co-chair of the Patient Family Advisory Council.

Please join us for a celebration of Katie's life from noon-1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21 in the volunteer and patient services area on the first floor of Pavilion C. All are welcome.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Mobile blood drive for Children's Hospital Colorado Oct. 25

Denver Health is hosting a Children's Hospital Colorado mobile blood drive from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Oct. 25. The mobile unit will be on the south side of the Rita Bass Trauma and EMS Education Institute, 190 W. Sixth Ave. Denver Health receives blood products from Children's Hospital, and this is a way we can give back. To schedule an appointment, [click here](#).

### Financial education webinars for building investment confidence

Denver Health and Fidelity have teamed up to offer a series of educational webinars to provide information, strategies and tips to help you manage your financial future with confidence.

#### Oct. 18 at noon: Take the First Step to Investing

Getting started in investing can be intimidating. In this webinar, you'll learn key investing concepts, common investment types, and how to choose your investment approach. Register [here](#).

#### Nov. 2 at noon: Retirement Income Planning for Her: Helping You Demand More from Your Money

Designed for women investors, this webinar will help you learn more about your retirement savings and plan for future income. Click [here](#) to register.

### National awareness and recognitions

Today, Oct. 13, is [Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day](#).

Saturday, Oct. 15 is [Global Handwashing Day](#), [Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day](#) and [National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day](#).

Wednesday, Oct. 19, is [World Pediatric Bone and Joint Day](#).

Oct. 12-20 is [Bone and Joint Health National Action Week](#).

Oct. 16-22 is [Healthcare Quality Week](#) and [International Infection Prevention Week](#).

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.

### Health care in the news: What's trending around the state and nation

- IT News: CommonSpirit Health hospitals confirm ransomware attack.
- COVID News: U.S. clears updated COVID boosters for kids as young as 5.
- Financial News: \$20M hospital relief plan approved as Atlanta ED closure looms.
- Trends: Missouri clinics offer free vasectomies, citing a surge in demand.

Want to share health care and health policy news? Email us stories from Colorado and the nation at [public\\_relations@dhha.org](mailto:public_relations@dhha.org).

### October

Oct. 14: Deadline to submit flu vaccination exemptions  
Oct. 16: Employee Engagement Survey closes  
Oct. 19: Employee Benefits Open Enrollment ends

Oct. 28: Employee Fall Festival  
Oct. 31: Halloween  
Nov. 1: Deadline for flu shots

[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.

