



DENVER HEALTH'S WEEKLY 411

The week's most critical information delivered to your inbox.

Thursday, August 24, 2023

Family celebrates with staff following 2-year-old's recovery

Will Ewing was recently brought back to Denver Health to celebrate his second birthday with his family and staff who had helped him following a brain injury at 11 months old. At that time, Will was rushed to our hospital needing a craniectomy and operation on a subdural hematoma. Following surgery, the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit became his home for weeks during his long journey to recovery.



"We spent so much time at the hospital that we got to know the team and feel the same deep sense of gratitude for those who cared for our son," his mom, Molly, said.

Will's family said they plan to make his birthday celebrations at Denver Health an annual tradition. [Click here to read more](#) about Will's journey.

Wellness Fair food drive exceeds 1,000-pound donation goal

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Denver Health Wellness Fair food drive, which exceeded its 1,000-pound donation goal and helped employees who were able to pick out items to take home. Organizers thank the representatives from Well-being Champions, RESTORE, Workforce Development Center, Patient Experience and our partners from WorkLife Partnership for their support. More than 150 people attended the Wellness Fair last Friday, and several won grocery store gift cards.



RECOGNIZING YOU

Denver Health nurses recognized for dedication to patients

Because the normal Nightingale Awards were not held this year, the Denver Regional Nightingale Association decided to host a non-competitive, interim event to celebrate nurses on the evening of Aug. 12. Two of three nurses nominated from Denver Health were able to attend the event, where they were recognized for their achievements in nursing.



Denver Health nominees included:

- **Christine Savoie, RN, assistant director of the NurseLine**, was nominated for her dedication to the community and EMS services, and for seeking new ways to alleviate stress for patients and staff.
- **Erin Le Bel, RN, NurseLine**, was nominated for being an exceptional nurse who has used the experience of her own health challenges to start a nonprofit to help others.
- **Amy Smith, MICU RN**, who was nominated for her exemplary care and an ability to make connections with our patients.

In the photo, from left, are Dr. Kathy Casey, Dr. Natalie Nicholson, Michelle Fitzgerald, Nancy Botiller, Sharon Briese, Erin Le Bel (nominee), Kathleen Lester, and Christine Savoie (nominee).

WORKPLACE SAFETY

Pilot program launched this week to help with crisis calls

As part of the ongoing effort to ensure high-quality, safe, and equitable care and service, the Inpatient Threat Workgroup provided an update on workplace safety across the hospital system this week, during which De-escalating Agitation Response Team (DART) leads Dr. Thom Dunn and Will Stein reported that a 45-day pilot on DART tactics in 9A began Monday, Aug. 21. Eventually, DART will respond to crisis calls with a psychiatric RN and a security officer to any acute care unit once fully rolled out. Patient involuntary discharge and employee education work will follow this fall. The goal of this work is to reduce verbal, sexual and physical assaults in our health care system, and to educate and train staff in de-escalation techniques, and create proactive mechanisms for identifying patients with a history of violence. Look for updates on progress in upcoming 411 communication.

GET INVOLVED

Attend Overdose Awareness Day event Aug. 31 on main campus

Denver Health's **Center for Addiction Medicine (CAM)** will remember lives lost, raise awareness and reduce stigma during an Overdose Awareness Day event on the main campus at **11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 31**. Please join us outside of Pavilion D where you can pick up resources, giveaways, Narcan and fentanyl test strips, and hear from CAM leaders and champions as well as a patient testimonial. Wear purple to show your support, and keep an eye out for Pavilion A to also light up purple in honor of the event. Everyone is encouraged to wear purple to show support. Email CAM@dhha.org with questions.



Join Saturday's AIDS walk to raise money, awareness around HIV

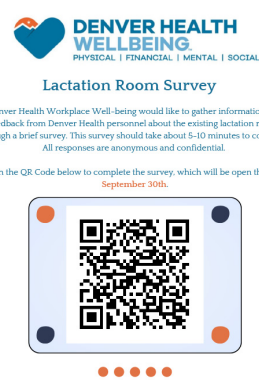
The Festival for Life: AIDS Walk & Run Colorado is set for **Saturday, Aug. 26**, at Cheesman Park, and Denver Health is putting together a team for the Honorary Walk. The Colorado Health Network is hosting the festival from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the park at East Eighth Avenue and Franklin Street. The 5K run starts at 9 a.m., followed by the walk at 9:30. The festival will feature AIDS Memorial Quilt displays; a Diva Dash, a volleyball tournament; a brunch garden; free health screenings and booths from partner agencies. The event celebrates the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS and helps raise money for patients, including at Denver Health.



Staff, friends, family and patients are welcome to join the walking team, which was started by the **Public Health Institute (PHI) at Denver Health**, by clicking the "join this team" button on [our team page](#). You may also email kaitlin.buck@dhha.org, a senior research assistant with the PHI's Infectious Disease Clinic, at kaitlin.buck@dhha.org and request to join. The team has a fundraising goal of \$5,000, and **donations are accepted** on the team page.

Take survey on lactation rooms at Denver Health

Denver Health Workplace Well-being would like to gather information and feedback from Denver Health personnel about the existing lactation rooms through a brief survey. Your feedback is valuable and will be used to make improvements to the existing lactation rooms. This survey should take 5-10 minutes, and all responses are anonymous and confidential. [Click here](#) to complete the survey, which will be open through Sept. 30. If you would be interested in participating in an in-person or virtual interview to provide additional feedback about the lactation room amenities, please email Kristin.Ellis@dhha.org.



Sign up for mobile blood drive at Denver Health on Sept. 26

Denver Health will host a blood drive from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. **Tuesday, Sept. 26**, in the parking lot of the Rita Bass Trauma & EMS Institute to help Children's Hospital Colorado. Denver Health partners with Children's to maintain a robust blood supply for our patients, and your help is greatly appreciated. [Click here to sign up](#) for one of two slots available every 15 minutes.



PERKS & DISCOUNTS

Sign up for chance to win free chair massage Aug. 30

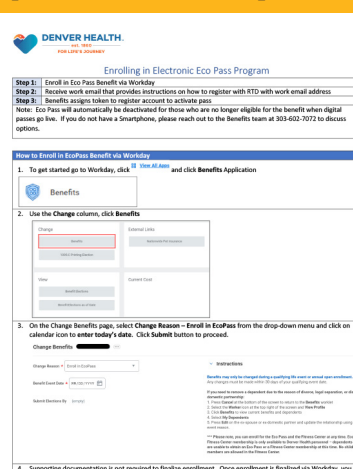
The Denver Health RESTORE Support Center, on the first floor of Pavilion B, will offer free 15-minute chair massages to employees from noon-4 p.m. **Wednesday, Aug. 30**. [Click here to enter a drawing](#) for your chance to win a massage. Winners will be contacted by phone and email on Monday, Aug. 28 and offered time slots. Names on the sign-up list and the winners will be kept confidential. Email questions to RESTORE@dhha.org.



A reminder that RESTORE Group Support sessions are offered on an ongoing basis for Denver Health employees. [Click here for a schedule](#) and more information.

RTD EcoPass going digital, requires employee sign up in Workday

Denver Health employees need to sign-up via Workday to continue using the RTD EcoPass benefit. If you are not enrolled in Workday, please submit your request by [following instructions here](#), also available by clicking on the image, **by Sept. 1** to ensure no disruption in service. Once you have completed the enrollment via Workday, you will receive registration instructions in your work email within two business days. The Human Resources benefits team will finalize your pass by assigning your electronic token.



No smartphone? No worries. Denver Health will have new cards available that can be used with the electronic pass system. You still need to enroll using Workday to initiate the request. Once initiated, let the benefits team know you need an updated card. Your current EcoPass will be turned off Sept. 1.

More questions? Contact the benefits team at 303-602-7072, create a Cherwell ticket or stop by Human Resources in Pavilion B from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Sign up for free English acquisition courses starting Sept. 11



Denver Health's Workforce Development Center is offering free English acquisition courses this fall at Community College of Denver. The 12-week courses run **Sept. 11-Dec. 9**, and all materials are included for Denver Health employees. Click on the flyers on the left (English) or right (Spanish) to view times and days of the week. [Click here to sign up](#) for the courses by Sept. 10, and select Denver Health employee. The Workforce Development Center can make arrangements to help eliminate barriers for employees to take the class. For more information, email WorkforceDevelopment@dhha.org.



STAY INFORMED

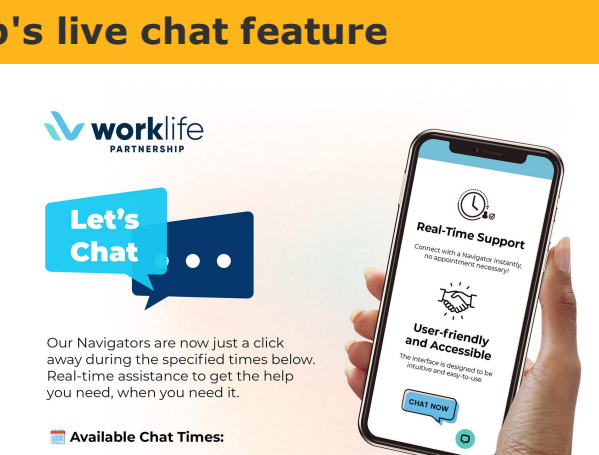
Performance appraisal process to begin Nov. 8

The 2023-24 Learn, Engage, Achieve, Develop (LEAD) performance review and appraisal process timeline was unveiled this week and will start in November. **Self-appraisals are optional** and will be launched in Workday on **Wednesday, Nov. 8**. Anyone completing a self-appraisal must do so by Dec. 31, and all appraisals must be completed by Feb. 29, 2024. [Find more information here](#) on the Workday Resources Hub.



Introducing WorkLife Partnership's live chat feature

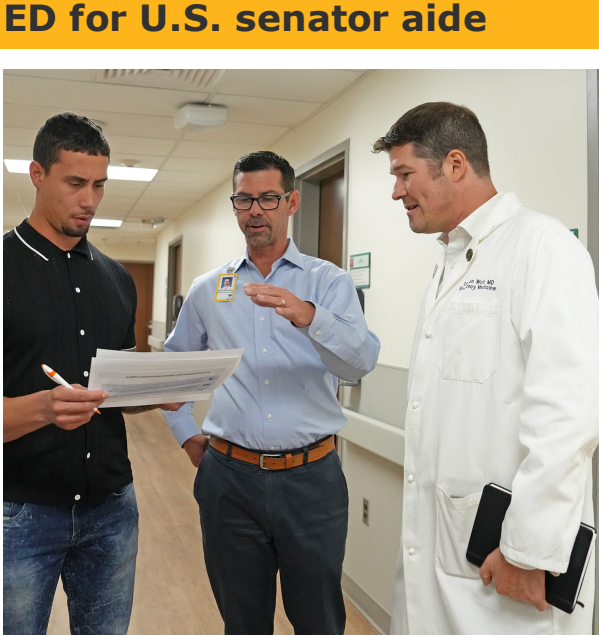
WorkLife Partnership is a free and confidential resource available to all Denver Health employees that now offers a live chat feature to make connecting even easier. A WorkLife Resource Navigator can help you or your immediate family find solutions to challenges and navigate important life milestones. They can provide support for things like housing, utility assistance, finding child care or insurance, budgeting and more. Navigators are community resource specialists, and their services are always confidential, free and mobile.



To connect with a navigator, text NAVIGATOR to 888-219-8993, email navigator@worklifecolorado.org, call 303-298-1625, or visit askthenavigator.org, where you can click on the chat icon to start the conversation. Available chat times are noon-3 p.m. Mondays and 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays.

Denver Health physicians give tour of ED for U.S. senator aide

Denver Health **Chief Government and Community Affairs Officer Steven Federico, MD**, (pictured, center) and **Emergency Department Director Stephen Wolf, MD**, (pictured, right) gave a tour of the ED on Wednesday to Max Hayes (pictured, left), who represents U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo. Drs. Wolf and Federico explained the challenges facing Denver Health and particularly its ED, including an increase in violence from patients toward staff. The doctors provided Hayes with information to take back to Sen. Bennet in hopes of continuing to push for legislation that will help keep Denver Health staff and patients safe amid a rise in violence across U.S. health care systems.



August | September | October

Aug. 26: AIDS Walk & Run Colorado
Aug. 30: Free chair massages from RESTORE
Aug. 31: Overdose Awareness Day
Sept. 1: Old RTD EcoPasses expire
Sept. 7: Komen walk sign-up deadline for DH T-shirt
Sept. 11: Free English acquisition courses start

Sept. 13: Suicide Prevention Awareness Month event
Sept. 23: Denver Century Ride
Sept. 26: Blood drive at Rita Bass parking lot
Sept. 30: Survey on lactation rooms closes
Oct. 8: Komen More Than Pink Walk



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.

