

Denver Health's **Orthopedics** and **Perioperative Services** teams went above and beyond in August, breaking department records for the number of surgeries performed and clinic visits. Orthopedics performed 519 surgeries, topping the previous record of 467 surgeries in May. The department also had 3,042 clinic visits, up from the previous May record of 2,843. "This accomplishment is a true reflection of our amazing teamwork," said Aisha Douaidary, RN supervisor for the Orthopedics specialty clinic. "This could not

providers."



Perioperative Services had 1,427 surgeries performed in August, a single-month record that bested the previous mark of 1,396, set in March. "Our mission statement about providing access to the highest quality and equitable health care is not

extremely important role they play in patient care in the operating room. This team of dedicated workers collaborate to ensure each operation occurs safely and successfully for every patient, day or night."

Congratulations to all surgical services and support teams for their continued commitment to Denver Health's patients and to the community. Pictured at the top are members of the Orthopedics team; at right are staff from the Orthopedics clinic; and below are staff from Pavilion A and L operating rooms.



Lindsey Fish, MD, medical director of the Peña Southwest Urgent Care, served as emcee and host (pictured at top). She reminded the crowd that Denver Health is "committed to ensuring everyone in Denver can access high-quality behavioral health and addiction treatment, whether it's through our our community outreach and public health teams."

"My experience has shown me that it doesn't just go away, that there is a physical and mental aftermath, but you can learn ways to manage, and cope, and heal, and live and accept what has held you back," Hawrylyshyn said. "Today, I celebrate 180 days sober from self-harm and all substances."

YouTube and Facebook pages. with local media about Suicide Prevention and the event. Dr. Simpson's interview with KOA can be heard

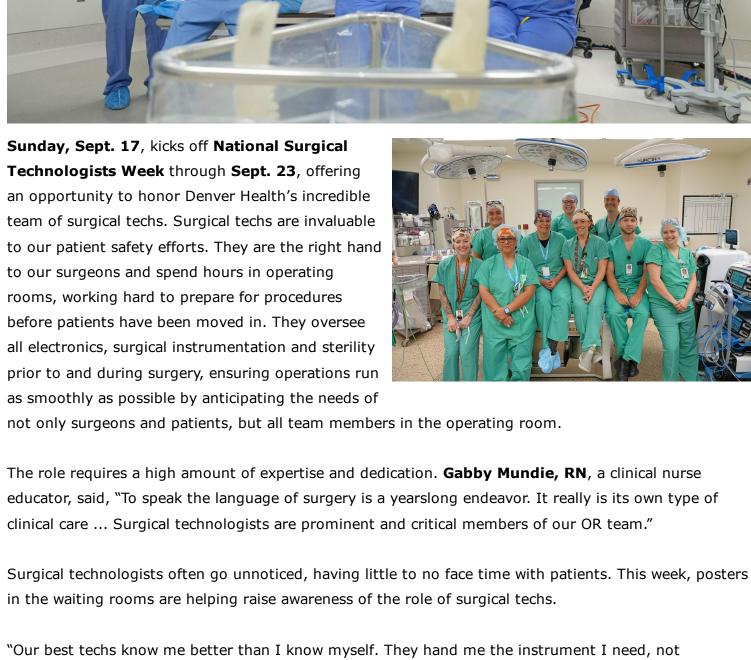
here, and Belstock's interview with Fox31 is available at this link. Please visit the Zero Suicide committee's Pulse page for more information about suicide awareness, trainings and resources.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Denver Health, in community Hispanic Heritage Month starts Friday, Sept. 15, and runs through Oct. 15. The Cultural Celebrations committee of the DEIB Council at

Additionally, a potluck is set for **Tuesday**, **Oct. 10**, in the Nightingale and Osler classrooms in the basement of Pavilion C. All are welcome to come share and eat dishes representing Latin and Hispanic cultures. If you want to bring a dish, please sign up for a time here. There will be two "shifts" for eating: 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If you bring a dish and are willing to submit your recipe, the committee would like to create an electronic cookbook to share with employees. If you are not on the main campus and would like to host a potluck at your clinic, please reach out to Sophia.Olan@dhha.org so that we can announce the clinic participants and contacts. We

employees as possible by **Friday, Sept. 29**. Please take Take the Internal Communications Survey





 Received 240 unique engagements. Collected, processed and validated survey and interview data.

name the 2024-26 Strategic Plan?" Please email your ideas to DHHAStrategy2024@dhha.org. For more information and feedback opportunities, visit the 2024-26 Strategic Plan page on the Pulse. We thank you for your input as Denver Health works to develop and implement its vision and strategic initiatives for the next three years. Denver artist working on new mural at main campus

Wear orange Sunday for World Patient Safety Day World Patient Safety Day, recognized annually on **Sept. 17**, represents a global call for solidarity and concerted action by all countries and international

Watch the latest QuickLean video on Daily Management system

Using the Daily Management system to

 Using a Daily Management Board to help everyone know where we are in relation

AVITALITY

translate business goals into daily

Using a Help Chain to trigger

activities

to goals

problem-solving and develop people LSI has been teaching this concept since the inception of the Lean Academy, and it is now seeking to grow its reach with educational videos that can be watched at any time. These videos educate on Lean concepts and tools and demonstrate how the Lean philosophy works in practice. The latest video is Daily Food Truck Wednesdays continue with Maiz on Sept. 20 After the launch of Food Truck Wednesdays this week with Krazy Thai Food Truck, next week's vendor will be Maiz Denver, which was started by a former Denver Health paramedic, Maria Rangel. View the menu here, stop by from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. outside of Pavilion L on the main campus next Wednesday, and click here to read more about Rangel, whose food truck was recommended by several employees. Share feedback or suggest other food trucks to Amy.Friedman@dhha.org.

Join Denver Health leaders Friday for Million Hearts announcement

and an overall shortage of staff and resources. Lynne noted that changing Denver Health's financial picture and increasing access is essential to its longterm viability given how the level of uncompensated care has more than doubled in the past few years. Denver Health's EM continues to be a leader across the country both clinically and academically. The clinical operations team has worked hard to improve its volume and flow, with gross revenue increasing by \$45 million in the first six months of 2023. The research team continues to grow with more than \$1.3 million in active funding and is on track to have more than 100 academic publications this year. "Our retreat allowed us the opportunity to discuss our departmental strategies around the future of education in EM, health equity and social emergency medicine, and our departmental equity and belonging efforts," said **Emergency Department Director Stephen Wolf, MD**. "Having Donna come

patients and community in the way we want to as a department."

Denver International Airport (DEN) conducted an airport-wide mass casualty incident (MCI) drill that

Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements for the

contributing to the exercise design and planning. About 500 participants and 25 agencies played

is held every three years and is part of Federal

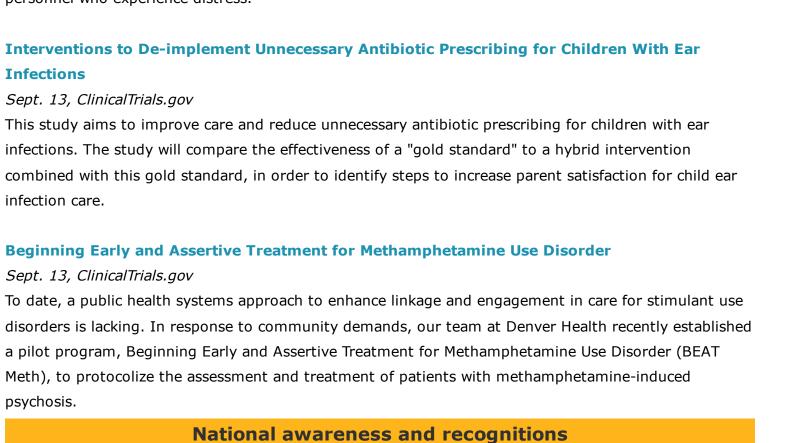
airport. Many months and hours were spent

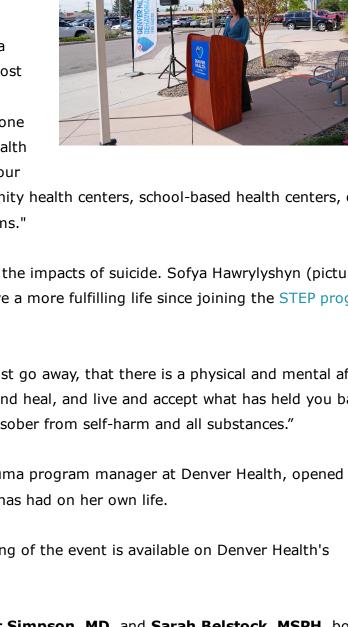
the exercise. They had excellent communication and execution of practiced MCI processes. Special recognition to the Denver Health Paramedics from our DEN Operations team who were able to lead the scene: Brigitte Szobar, Jesse Wright, Kat Moon, Nathan Moore, Lt. Eric Dailey, Lt. Will Hargreaves, Lt. Tom Stoffer and Assistant Chief Julie Arellano. Join Denver Health team for Jingle Bell Run on Dec. 10 This year's Jingle Bell Run to support the Arthritis

Infectious disease docs don't expect COVID-19 spikes Sept. 13, The Denver Gazette COVID-19 cases are eking up in Colorado, but local infectious disease doctors aren't worried — yet. "We certainly have come a long way," said Dr. Heather Young, an infectious disease specialist at Denver Health. "The illnesses that our patients are seeing is less severe with all of the advances." Using dance and play as a joyful antidote for burnout and compassion fatigue Sept. 13, The Denver Gazette

To date, a public health systems approach to enhance linkage and engagement in care for stimulant use disorders is lacking. In response to community demands, our team at Denver Health recently established a pilot program, Beginning Early and Assertive Treatment for Methamphetamine Use Disorder (BEAT Meth), to protocolize the assessment and treatment of patients with methamphetamine-induced psychosis.

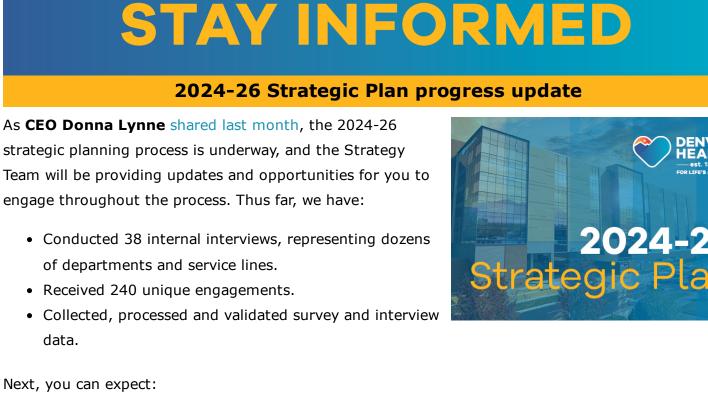
National awareness and recognitions Sept. 10-16 is **Environmental Services Week**, a time to show appreciation for the dedicated EVS personnel that ensure health care facilities across the country are clean and safe places for patients, their families and other staff members. See next week's 411 for more on EVS Week activities at Denver Health. Sept. 16 is Usher Syndrome Awareness Day. Sept. 17-23 is Child Passenger Safety Week. Sept. 18 is National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness 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. September | October **Sept. 20:** Pain education class (in person) **Sept. 30:** Survey on lactation rooms closes











the operation where it needs to go. A longstanding relationship between a surgeon and tech is one of

the most valuable partnerships in medicine."

Expect to see a one-of-a-kind mural decorating a popular path on the hospital campus by the end of

the month. Thanks to the generous support of a donor, Denver Health has commissioned muralist

the pandemic in November 2020. You will see

future issues of the 411.

Zucchini-Fowler working various days of the week to complete the project. Watch for mural updates in

Join next Trauma Lecture Series on Sept. 20

Denver Health's chief hand and microvascular surgeon, Kyros Ipaktchi, MD, will present at the next

Trauma Lecture Series session, "Adult and Pediatric Microvascular Trauma," at noon Wednesday, Sept. 20. in the OR Conference Room (Room 2315) and via Webex. This is a wonderful opportunity for Denver Health staff to learn about the incredible work that our microvascular team does and is uniquely able to

professionals. Click here to learn more, to register for the session or to watch archived lectures. These hourlong trauma-related presentations are given on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, email trauma@dhha.org. Quality and Patient Safety Team (pictured) invites employees to wear orange on Sunday and join the World Health Organization and other groups calling

provide to our region. The free trauma continuing education is open for all levels of health care

champions will speak at the press conference and talk about our commitment to the community, cardiovascular health Denver Health Workplace Wellness Strategist Kristin Ellis said, "Denver Health is proud to prioritize a culture of health and well-being through all we do. The care we provide, the environment we create, and the programs and resources we offer support the well-being of our patients, visitors and staff in a way that will have a positive and lasting impact on our community." **CEO joins Emergency Medicine faculty retreat** summer Emergency Medicine (EM) faculty retreat on departmental strategic goals and priorities for 2024. team, especially amid increasing workplace violence



and speak to our challenges and her future vision for Denver Health helps us be aligned and serve our

Denver Health participates in preparedness exercise at airport

Oct. 4: CEO town hall **Sept. 20:** Trauma Lecture Series Oct. 5: CEO town halls **Sept. 20:** Food Truck Wednesday with Maiz Sept. 23: Denver Century Ride Oct. 8: Komen More Than Pink Walk Oct. 10: Hispanic Heritage Month potluck **Sept. 23:** Walk with a Doc at City Park Oct. 11: CEO town halls **Sept. 29:** Discounted tickets to Rockies vs. Twins **Sept. 29:** Internal Communications Survey closes Oct. 12: CEO town halls **CLICK HERE** FOR A PDF VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER. Submit content for consideration in the Weekly 411 through the employee outreach SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE 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 **WEEKLY 411** 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.

f X ⊙ □ in ≃

emergency departments, urgent cares, community health centers, school-based health centers, or from Two individuals shared their personal stories of the impacts of suicide. Sofya Hawrylyshyn (pictured) described how Denver Health has helped her live a more fulfilling life since joining the STEP program to Through tears, **Missy Anderson**, pediatric trauma program manager at Denver Health, opened up about losing her brother to suicide and the impact it has had on her own life. For those who were unable to attend, a recording of the event is available on Denver Health's

just words but something we live by," said **Heather Blaylock**, RN, nurse manager for the operating room. "Our team of surgical technologists, nurses and perioperative support technicians take pride in the

The goal of the event was to spread the word that suicide is preventable and that anyone can help

someone in need.

address self-harm and substance use.

families and communities that have been affected.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING

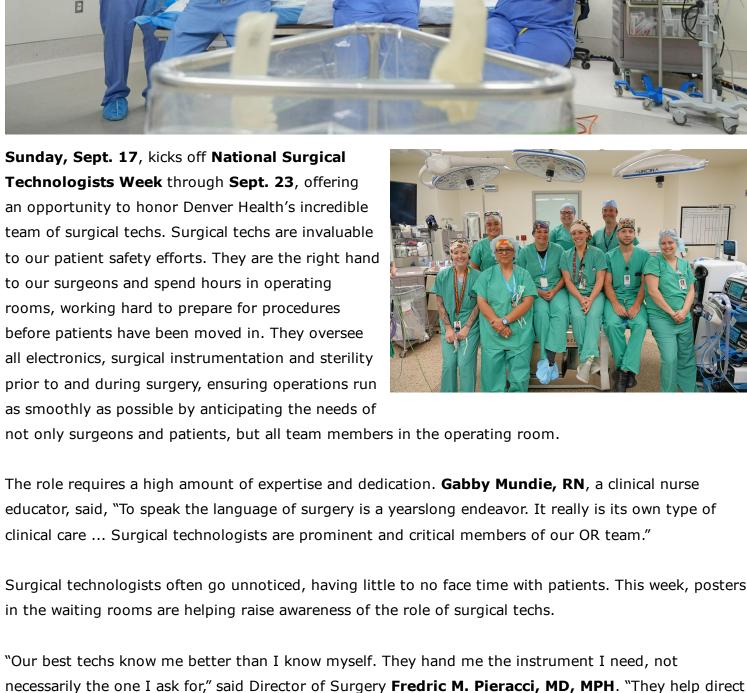
culture is encouraged during the month. We would love to see all Hispanic cultures represented around the clinics and hospital. If you decorate, please consult the facility decorations policy to remain compliant, and make sure your decorations are culturally appropriate and sensitive. Send pictures to DenverHealth411@dhha.org so we can share them in an upcoming newsletter.

Denver Health encourages employees to take part in

the following activities to celebrate the month.

Decorating your workspace to represent Hispanic

can't wait to celebrate with you! Visit Denver's website for a list of several community events to help celebrate the month. There is a Latinx Symposium on "DEI: What's Next?" set for 5:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, at Burwell Center for Career Achievement, 2190 E. Asbury Ave. in Denver. The event, hosted by the DU Latinx Alumni Affinity Network, will explore the history and future of diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives with a panel featuring academic, law and industry experts. Click here to learn more and to register.



• An external poll to hundreds of Denver residents launching this week. A Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting Sept. 19. • Updates and opportunities to share feedback at the CEO town halls Oct. 4-12. • Employee poll on the Pulse about vision and purpose statements in mid-October. Thank you to everyone who answered the question, "What makes Denver Health unique from other health care systems in Colorado?" We received many responses with your thoughts on this topic and have incorporated those into our analysis. The next question we have for input is: "What should we

partners to improve patient safety. Denver Health's

better place for employees, patients, visitors and the community. To become a truly Lean organization, small improvements should be made regularly at all levels by everyone. Management and Help Chains.

Join us at **9:45 a.m. Friday** in front of Pavilion D as Denver Health receives recognition from Million Hearts, an initiative co-led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,

aimed at the prevention of heart disease and stroke. Hear

how Denver Health's innovative programs secured its

CEO Donna Lynne spoke at the annual end-of-

Aug. 25, where faculty came together to discuss

The retreat provided the chance for Donna to

acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of the EM

in the Emergency Department, high burnout rates

and employee well-being.

selection for this national distinction and how the work

affects both patients and employees of the hospital system. **CEO Donna Lynne**, Denver Health physicians and wellness

for improved patient safety around the world.

The Lean Systems Improvement (LSI) department exists to

help Denver Health continuously improve and become a



Foundation is set for **9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 10**, at Washington Park. Denver Health employees and their families are encouraged to join our team, Denver Healthies (LOPers), or to donate to help reach the team goal of \$2,500 raised. Arthritis is the top cause of disability in the U.S., affecting nearly 60 million people. You can register as an

Denver Health in the media

"We have seen a dramatic increase in suicide incidents over the past two decades," Scott Simpson, MD,

said. "We continue to have access to behavioral health services nationally for a variety of reasons."

Sarah Belstock, director of community health promotion with the Public Health Institute at Denver

Denver Health Psychiatrist Dr. Scott Simpson on Suicide Prevention Month

Health, talks about spreading awareness about suicide and remembering lives lost.

Sept. 12, Colorado's Morning News with Marty Lenz & Jeana Gondek

Recognizing National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Local artist Ashley Cornelius is changing and saving lives through her poetry and her work as program manager of **Denver Health RESTORE**, which provides peer-to-peer support to all Denver Health personnel who experience distress. Interventions to De-implement Unnecessary Antibiotic Prescribing for Children With Ear **Infections** Sept. 13, ClinicalTrials.gov

individual or bring a group to run, walk or roll and spread

bells on. Got questions? Email Denver Health family medicine physician/team captain Patricia Meyer, DO, at

Patricia.Meyer@dhha.org

Sept. 13, Fox31

infection care.

Sept. 13, ClinicalTrials.gov

good cheer to support research for treatment and a cure for arthritis. Wear your favorite holiday attire and be there with