



DENVER HEALTH'S WEEKLY 411

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

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Denver Health Fall Festival to Celebrate Staff, Allow Time to Meet CEO Donna Lynne

CEO Donna Lynne has prioritized talking one-on-one with as many staff as possible since her first day at Denver Health last week. But with nearly 8,000 employees in our health system, those are a lot of hands to shake (even for a former politician). So, while looking to celebrate our employees' amazing work and accomplishments, and providing more staff face time with Donna, Denver Health will hold an Employee Fall Festival/welcome event for Donna on Oct. 28. There will be two sessions: 2 to 4 p.m. (for day-shift employees) and 6 to 9 p.m. (for night-shift employees) on the main campus, in front of Pavilion D. Goodies will be delivered to our Family Health Centers and locations outside the main campus on Oct. 26 and 31 (delivery details coming soon). This will be a small event, as Denver Health works through our current budget situation. Still, the plans include music, goodies, coffee and cider, and a swag giveaway contest. Employees can join the event in fall-themed or Halloween attire (see HR [guidelines here](#)). All staff are encouraged to attend to say hello to our new CEO.



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Employee Engagement Survey is Live Through Oct. 12

Yesterday, the employee engagement survey landed in staff inboxes. The survey email, sent from Press Ganey on behalf of Denver Health, has the subject line "2022 Employee or Provider Engagement Survey Invitation." The survey gives you the opportunity to share ideas or insights you have for improvements. It's completely confidential, and responses will be combined so that no individual can be identified. It's available in both English and Spanish. Please fill out the survey before it closes on Wednesday, Oct. 12. The email contains a unique-to-you link. Please do not share the emailed survey link with others. You can also access the survey through one of these generic links:

[Employee Engagement Survey for Staff](#)
[Employee Engagement Survey for Providers](#)



Employee Engagement Survey SEPT. 28 - OCT. 12

New this year, you can scan the QR code displayed on posters around campus to log in and complete the survey. Each week, employees who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for swag giveaways. If you need technical assistance, email hdesk@pressganey.com or call 1-800-849-2292, option 1.

Clarification on COVID-19 Bivalent Vaccine Boosters for Staff

On Sept. 16, a COVID-19 Huddle Sheet was sent to all staff with an update about bivalent vaccine boosters. To clarify: While Denver Health does have bivalent vaccine doses in stock, supplies are limited, and the organization is prioritizing providing boosters to established patients. Denver Health employees who are eligible to receive a bivalent booster and who already receive care at Denver Health can schedule a vaccination appointment through MyChart. Employees who do not receive their care at Denver Health are encouraged to seek their bivalent booster through their primary care provider, a local pharmacy, a [community clinic](#), or at a [special event](#). Denver Health is not currently requiring COVID-19 booster shots for staff, though receiving your booster is encouraged.

[Read more](#)

2023 Employee Benefits Enrollment Window Oct. 3-19

During Open Enrollment, which runs from Monday, Oct. 3 through Wednesday, Oct. 19, you can enroll in or change your benefit plans, enroll in voluntary benefits, add or drop dependents from your plans, and enroll in a medical or dependent care Flexible Spending Account (FSA) for 2023. The 2023 Employee Benefits Guide and Benefits Plan Summary, which includes all monthly



premiums and instructions on how to enroll, will be available on the Pulse. Human Resources will have tabling events and Open Enrollment benefit carts around the main campus and clinic locations daily to provide information and answer your questions. The [virtual benefits fair](#) (works best in Google Chrome) offers a unique experience to learn about your options and how to enroll or make changes to your benefits. The website is available anytime, day or night, to assist you in making your choices, and it includes more information about available plans and what's new this year.

STAY INFORMED

Denver Health Residency Program Ranked No. 2 by Physicians

Denver Health has the second-ranked emergency medicine residency program in the U.S., based on reputation scores. The ranking by health care platform Doximity's Residency Navigator is based on more than 300,000 reviews and ratings from more than 125,000 physicians, including current residents and recent alumni. Denver Health is ranked below only the LAC+USC Medical Center in Los Angeles.



"This is a testament to not only the incredible commitment of our residency leadership, but also the commitment of each and every one of our faculty, colleagues and staff who assure our residents get the absolute best education," said Dr. Stephen Wolf, director of service for emergency medicine.

Denver Health's Residency in Emergency Medicine, in collaboration with the University of Colorado School of Medicine's Department of Emergency Medicine, is the only emergency medicine residency program in Colorado.

"We are a really mission-driven place," said Dr. Bonnie Kaplan, residency program director. "We care deeply about our trainees but also the people we take care of. The breadth of experience makes us unique. We push our residents so they really feel confident and comfortable in any situation."

[Learn more about the residency program](#)

Medical Assistant Institute Taking Applications for Spring Program

The National Institute for Medical Assistant Advancement is [accepting applications](#) for its spring 2023 program. The institute's eight-month program trains medical assistants for primary care using online learning and in-clinic experience. Denver Health supports employees and community members who want to begin a new career as a medical assistant. Funding for all program expenses is available for employees and community members, with an employment agreement.

COMINGS & GOINGS

Longtime Nurse Kathie Chichester Retiring After Three Decades



Denver Health will be saying goodbye to a longtime nurse and someone who was instrumental in leading Denver Health's efforts to get COVID-19 vaccines into the arms of our staff and patients. After more than 30 years, Kathie Chichester is retiring on Sept. 30.

As a registered nurse in our Ambulatory Care Service (ACS), Kathie has cared for our patients first with inpatient pediatrics and then at Westside Pediatrics. Kathie has been running the Denver Health Immunization Program for 10 years, ensuring that patients of all ages are up to date and getting the required and recommended vaccines to keep them healthy. Obviously that work grew exponentially for Kathie during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Under Kathie's leadership, Denver Health became a model for health departments throughout Colorado and the nation on how to distribute COVID vaccines. She has ensured that we are on top of national policies and guidelines so that our program is safe and efficient," said Dr. Steve Federico, her supervisor and director of general pediatrics and school and community programs.

Colleagues attended a reception to honor Kathie on Tuesday at the 601 Broadway building.

"Denver Health has the most amazing people," Kathie said. "There have always been mentors and people to lead you — those people that carry you forward over the years."

Thank you, Kathie, for your service, leadership and compassion. You will be missed!

RECOGNIZING YOU

Celebrate Denver Health Departments in Weeks Ahead

Please join us in celebrating [Healthcare Food Service Workers Week](#), Oct. 2-8, to honor the employees of Food and Nutrition Services who keep our Denver Health patients and staff nourished and healthy.

Following that is [National Case Management Week](#), Oct. 9-15. This year's theme is "Caring — It's What We Do." Thanks to the incredible work of our [care management](#) professionals at Denver Health.

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.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group Invitation

Join the LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group, PRISM, at its monthly meeting tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 30, from 2-3 p.m. in-person at the Nightingale and Osler Classroom, Pavilion C, or virtually over [Webex](#).

The LGBTQ+ Employee Committee aims to connect employees of Denver Health who represent the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender/Gender expansive, Queer, Questioning and Ally community. Through resource sharing, social support, professional support, employee advocacy and community engagement, the LGBTQ+EC will help ensure Denver Health is an affirming, supporting and responsive organization to its LGBTQ+ identified employees.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Safe Outdoor Space Residents Officially Relocated



As you may have heard, the Native-Inclusive Safe Outdoor Space (SOS), located at 8th and Elati on Denver Health property, recently experienced a devastating fire. The 36 residents living on that site were all displaced, but thankfully no one was injured. All of those residents have been officially relocated through the Colorado Village Collaborative (CVC) to other SOS sites, tiny home villages, or temporary housing until the new Native-inclusive site opens up in Montbello later this year.

Due to the extent of the damage and the hefty cleanup efforts needed, CVC has decided to close out the site completely. The lease agreement had been extended through the end of this year, but due to these unforeseen circumstances, the site will be permanently shut down by the end of October.

For those who would like to help build the SOS at Montbello, the volunteer build dates are as follows: Oct. 27-30, Nov. 3-6 and Nov. 10-13. CVC will soon have SignUpGenius forms available on their website.

Denver Health is still committed to a productive and collaborative partnership with CVC as the site closes down and to help support their residents as they continue to build sites throughout the City and County of Denver.

September | October

Sept. 28-Oct. 12: [Employee Engagement Survey](#)
 Sept. 30: [Presentation on Marburg Virus Disease \(WebEx\)](#)

Oct. 3-19: [Employee Benefits Open Enrollment](#)

[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.

