

# Parkland **NOW**

Information and stories for Parkland employees

**Feb. 9, 2026 – Feb. 15, 2026**

Parkland

# **ECMO** **REACHES 100!**



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## Parkland ECMO reaches 100!

Parkland's Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) program reached two major milestones in 2025 with both its 100<sup>th</sup> cannulation and 100<sup>th</sup> patient supported. ECMO is a form of advanced life support that temporarily takes over the work of the heart and/or lungs when they are too sick to function on their own. ECMO cannulation is a critical, often ultrasound-guided, procedure to insert large-bore catheters into major vessels. This represents the highest level of temporary mechanical support available when conventional therapies fail, with the ability to fully replace lung function and partially or fully support cardiac output in the sickest patients.

Parkland's ECMO program was established in 2021 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when it supported some of the most critically ill COVID patients to come through Parkland's doors. Today, Parkland ECMO is equipped to support patients in nearly every area of the hospital, including the ICUs, Emergency Department, Labor & Delivery, the Cath Lab, Interventional Radiology, Trauma, Burn services and beyond, providing lifesaving support to patients experiencing severe cardiac and/or respiratory failure while maintaining survival outcomes above the national average.

This achievement reflects years of dedication, collaboration and growth, and would not have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of the many teams and departments across Parkland who have helped support, shape and strengthen the program as we strive to care for our most vulnerable patients. For more information or to request ECMO support, contact the team at 469-419-9213 (ext. 79213), through an Epic "ECMO Consult."



## Watch UT Southwestern Ethics Grand Rounds online Feb. 10

You are invited to join the next UT Southwestern Ethics Grand Rounds from noon – 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10. Linda B. Uchal, PharmD, MS, BCPS, BCCCP, Clinical Pharmacist – Critical Care at UT Southwestern's William P. Clements University Hospital, will present "Not Just Drugs: Clinical Ethics and the Health-System Pharmacist." To participate in this webinar please register [using this link](#). Upon registration, you will get the Zoom event ID and link to join the webinar.



## ► Parkland named a Best Place for Working Parents

Parkland has once again been named Best Place for Working Parents® Dallas from The Dallas Regional Chamber. These awards recognize companies whose family-friendly offerings go above and beyond the requirements for a Best Place for Working Parents® designation.

## ▼ Join the CHNA Lunch & Learn on Feb. 12

From noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12, Parkland will host a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Lunch & Learn. [Click here](#) to register to attend upcoming CHNA Lunch & Learn Webinars.

## Check out the new Administrative Support Hub site

The Administrative Support Hub has updated their SharePoint, which you can view now at <https://phhs.sharepoint.com/sites/ASH/>. Please take a moment to explore what the Hub is doing and what is important to them. To all the leaders, thank YOU for your support of the Hub; we are grateful.

## ▼ Lasting Impressions: Alfreda Washington



Each week, "Lasting Impressions" features a Parkland employee who does exceptional work and provides excellent customer service. This week's "Lasting Impressions" features Alfreda Washington, Pharmacist, C.V. Roman Health Center.

*"I want to recognize Alfreda Washington for demonstrating compassionate care. She noticed that the children in the C.V. Roman pharmacy lobby who come with adults frequently get restless and begin to run around and climb over the furniture. This causes a general disturbance to the clinic or sometimes even a safety issue. Alfreda created a toy bin filled with sensory and fidget toys that kids can choose from and take home. This has resulted in reduced anxiety for both kids and adults due to the toys holding their attention while in the lobby. The children are able to play calmly, which in turn helps the adults they are with (and other adults in the pharmacy) focus on discussing medication therapy with the staff. Alfreda truly embodies the ICARE value Compassion. Thank you to Alfreda for going above and beyond!"*



## Jet Dental on-site appointments Feb. 9-11

Jet Dental will offer dental services next to the Employee Health Center on the 4th floor of Moody Outpatient Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, through Wednesday, Feb. 11. Appointments are required to be seen in the dental clinic and may be scheduled by [clicking here](#).

For more information, view this [FAQ](#) or visit [ParklandBenefits.org](#).

Want to nominate an employee who goes above and beyond? Tell us what makes them so fantastic by emailing [Employees@phhs.org](mailto:Employees@phhs.org) or calling ext. 28048.

## New step challenge begins Feb. 16

Ready to Walk the Wonders? Team up with coworkers and travel through virtual destinations around the world, earning rewards and points in the myCigna Wellness Experience as you go! Your team of five will earn points based on total steps per day (30,000 max steps per day per person), and the top three teams with the most total team steps at the end of the challenge will win the grand prize. Points earned for steps also go toward your annual rewards points, with the ability to earn up to \$100 annually in Wellness Cash redeemable in the Wellness Store.

**Register now through Feb. 23 | Challenge Dates: Feb. 16 – March 23**

### How to participate:

1. Ensure you've set up your profile at [myCigna.com](#) or in the [myCigna app](#). Select Wellness from the home screen, then click Wellness Dashboard under Wellness Home and fill out a brief form to set up your Wellness Experience profile.
2. From the Wellness Home, select Challenges from the menu and complete registration, adding up to five people per team. You may also participate in the challenge solo, but you'll boost your step score with more people on a team.
3. Get credit for your steps! Integrate with Apple Health or other fitness tracking devices to easily track your daily steps. In the [myCigna app](#), go to the Wellness Home, select Resources (far right option in the top menu bar) > Devices and Apps > Connect with Apple Health OR Connect a Device for devices other than Apple watches and follow the steps on your screen to connect.
4. Be sure you're logging in regularly to get credit for tracked steps. You may get credit for up to 30K steps per day. If you finish early, keep stepping or another team may pass you! All steps must be uploaded by March 27 at 11:59 p.m. CST.

### Win the grand prize!

Win a tote bag filled with Parkland swag, including a 20 oz. tumbler cup and fanny pack.\*

\*Only employees are eligible for prizes



## ► Ash Wednesday Observance on Feb. 18

Parkland staff, physicians, patients and family members are invited to visit the Ron J. Anderson, MD Multifaith Chapel from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18, to observe Ash Wednesday and for the traditional imposition of ashes on the forehead.

There will also be a celebration of the Holy Mass in the Ron J. Anderson, MD Multifaith Chapel at 8:30 a.m. and at noon.

### **Chaplains available to distribute ashes**

- Chaplains will be available to travel to COPCs. Please call the Spiritual Care office by Wednesday, Feb. 11, if you are interested in having a chaplain come to one of our COPCs for the imposition of ashes.
- If you are unable to visit the chapel and would like ashes distributed on your floor or work area (for staff or patients) on the hospital campus, please call the Spiritual Care office (214-590-8512, ext. 28512) by Tuesday, Feb. 17.

While availability may be limited due to increased patient care needs, we will make every effort to accommodate both on-campus and off-campus requests.

## Onward & Upward

**Ambulatory Specialty Clinics:** Timothy Hewitt to Director, Practice Operations, Janelle Leifeld to Senior Registered Nurse, Cath Ep Laboratory, Rebecca Holani to Senior Registered Nurse – Oncology

**Care Management:** Nancy Morales Velasquez to Social Worker (LCSW)

**Clinical Support Services:** Lucia Stone to Senior Associate Food Services

**ED and Behavioral Health:** Elizabeth Valenzuela to Unit Technician, Susan Ochonogor and Franklin Rubio to Senior Registered Nurse – Psychiatric Services

**Information Technology:** Chaz Burrows to End User Computing Engineer

**Medical Affairs:** Elizabeth Haddad to Advanced Practice Provider III – General

**Medicine Services:** Mesfin Hewando to Senior Registered Nurse – Acute Care, Dat Tran to Patient Care Assistant I – PRN

**Parkland Center for Clinical Innovation:** Christina Batts to Executive Assistant, Aaron Jahns to Growth and Project Coordinator, Ali Kaya to Senior Data Engineer

**Parkland Community Health Plan:** Maya Smith to Health Services Associate

**Pharmacy:** Deonte Grafton and Carlos Lopez to Medical Transition of Care Technician

**Women & Infants Specialty Health:** Renu Mathews to Advanced Practice Provider III Neonatal Resuscitation Program

## Retirements

- Madge Barnes, Staff Adult Physician – Community Medicine, COPC
- Cynthia Hamilton, Director, Information Systems, Information Technology
- Gregory Hartman, Senior Information Technology Desktop Support Technician, Information Technology
- Karen Hylton, Advanced Practice Provider II General, Women & Infant Specialty Health
- Sylvia McKinney, Supervisor Respiratory Care, Clinical Support Services
- Granville Oleson, Vice President, Enterprise Technology, Information Technology
- John Perez, Manager, Enterprise Portfolio, Corporate Staff



*Care. Compassion. Community.*

*Parkland Now* is published by the Corporate Communications department at Parkland Health.

Please note the submission deadline for each issue of *Parkland Now* is by the end of day each Monday. To publicize your news in *Parkland Now*, please send all submissions to [Employees@phhs.org](mailto:Employees@phhs.org) or call ext. 28048.