

# Now

Parkland

Information and stories  
for Parkland employees  
April 13 – 19, 2026

## WORKFORCE SAFETY — *from awareness to action*



Prevent



Respond



Recover

**P.3** Virtual Employee  
Town Hall on April 16

**P.3** Professional development  
opportunities available

**P.4** Learn more about  
Advance Directives

# Workforce Safety: From awareness to action

Healthcare workers face a higher risk of workplace violence than any industry, accounting for 73% of all nonfatal workplace injuries due to violence, with nurses and the frontline being most often affected. These incidents can range from verbal threats to physical assaults and are often driven by high stress, emotionally charged environments, behavioral health needs and emotional distress among patients and families. Many incidents also go unreported, which means the true impact is even greater than what we know.

The effects extend far beyond the moment of an incident. Workplace violence contributes to physical injury, emotional strain, burnout and staffing challenges. It also affects the care we provide, because a workforce that does not feel safe cannot provide their best care to our patients. This is why Parkland's Workforce Safety team is focused on moving from awareness to action, grounded in three key areas: prevention, response and recovery.



## PREVENT

- Watch for escalating behaviors using **STAMP**:
  - Staring
  - Tone and volume of voice
  - Anxiety
  - Mumbling
  - Pacing
- **Post the Safety Sign:** Up to half the staff entering patient rooms have no EMR access. The Safety Sign makes risk visible so they can walk in with awareness.
- **When to use a Safety Sign:**
  - Positive STAMP assessment
  - BERT call during current admission
  - Active Behavioral Alert



## RESPOND

- **If a situation feels unsafe:**
  - Activate BERT
  - Contact the Dallas County Hospital District Police Department
  - Notify leadership
- **Submit a WPV Safety Post.** This allows us to track patterns and improve prevention
- **Reporting leads to action,** including behavior expectation letters, disruptive behavior case reviews, modification of services and Workforce Safety care plans



## RECOVER

- **You are not alone after workplace violence.**
- Confidential peer support for staff impacted by stressful patient events is available 24/7/365 by paging SPARKS through the on-call directory.

Parkland's Workforce Safety team will host a series of events this week to discuss the effects of workplace violence, as well as things Parkland is doing both to prevent these incidents and support our staff when they do. Make plans to attend these events as you are able.

### Monday, April 13

- 10 – 11:30 a.m.  
"We Hear You: Prevention and Response in Action" (MacGregor W. Day Auditorium and [via WebEx](#))
- 1 – 2:30 p.m.  
"Recovery and Support After Workplace Violence" (MacGregor W. Day Auditorium and [via WebEx](#))

### Tuesday, April 14

- 10 – 11:30 a.m.  
"The Hidden Costs and Impacts of Increasing Workplace Violence" (MacGregor W. Day Auditorium and [via WebEx](#))

### Wednesday, April 15

- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Workplace Violence Wellbeing Fair (Private Dining Room)

### Thursday, April 16

- 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
SPARKS and Workforce Safety Clinics Rounding (various clinic locations)

### Friday, April 17

- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
SPARKS and Workforce Safety Booth (outside Park Market)

Creating a safe workplace is a shared responsibility, and our aim is to strengthen awareness, encourage action and ensure every team member feels empowered to use the tools and support available to them. Because when we move from awareness to action, we create a safer environment for our workforce and a stronger foundation for the care we provide to our patients and community.

To learn more, visit the [Workforce Safety Sharepoint page](#), or contact them at 214-590-9787 (ext. 29787) or [WorkforceSafety@phhs.org](mailto:WorkforceSafety@phhs.org).

## ▼ Lasting Impressions: Bryana Ruth



Each week, "Lasting Impressions" features a Parkland employee who does exceptional work and provides excellent customer service. This week's "Lasting Impressions" features Bryana Ruth, Radiology Supervisor, Sonography Ultrasound.

*"I had an excellent encounter with Bryana in the Ultrasound department. As a nurse and Parkland employee, it can be difficult to have the tables turned and find myself in the patient role. Bryana did an outstanding job addressing my anxieties and helping put my mind at ease during my ultrasound. Her competence was incredibly reassuring. I also watched her support a new ultrasound tech, guiding them to obtain the images needed for an accurate diagnosis. She educated and empowered the new hire with such professionalism and patience. Watching Bryana work made me truly proud to be a Parkland employee."*



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.

## Join the virtual Employee Town Hall on April 16

Parkland's next Employee Town Hall session open to all Parkland team members will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 16. This will be VIRTUAL ONLY. We will not host an in-person session this month. Join this session via WebEx using the information below.

**VIRTUAL  
ONLY**

- **Join the WebEx**
- **Event number:**  
2661 599 6754
- **Event password:**  
kpFaV4qsX45 (57328477 when dialing from a phone or video system)
- **Join by phone:**  
1-650-479-3208

To catch up on any town halls you missed, [click here](#).

## New professional development opportunities available

New professional development opportunities are now available to support your growth at Parkland. Work with your leader to identify the best opportunities and scheduling.

- **Exploring Leadership:** This workshop helps you consider if people leadership is a path you want to pursue. Engage in a variety of activities to uncover what leadership means and craft a development plan for your career aspirations. Click [here](#) to access additional information or enroll. (two consecutive days)
- **Compassionate Connections in Healthcare:** Assumptions, stereotypes and hidden biases can negatively affect our ability to connect with others or show compassion to our patients. Learn strategies to make compassionate connections with patients and colleagues. Click [here](#) to learn more or enroll. (three hours)

### How to find more learning opportunities

- Visit the [Leadership & Professional Development SharePoint site](#) for resources and a full listing of courses for all employees and leaders.
- Enroll in a course through Workday Learning by searching for the course title or using the registration links on SharePoint.

Courses are now available through July. To access Workday Learning, click the Menu button in the top-left corner of the [Workday homepage](#) and select the Learning App.

## Learn more about Advance Directives

Please join the Institutional Ethics Committee to learn more about Advance Directives from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 16, outside Park Market. Interdisciplinary team members from the committee will be present to share information about these important written documents that let patients share their wishes for treatment with healthcare providers if they become too sick to speak for themselves at a later time. It is important that we know our patients' beliefs, values and desires about medical care, so we can help them make their health choices.

## ▼ Join the Parkland team at the March for Babies this Saturday

At Parkland, we are committed to supporting families every step of the way and we invite you to join us in making a difference by participating or donating in this year's March for Babies. This year's event will take place at Levy Event Plaza (501 E. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving, 75039) on Saturday, April 18, with registration opening at 8 a.m. and the walk beginning at 9:30 a.m.

You can register to join the Parkland team at [www.marchforbabies.org/team/ParklandHealth](http://www.marchforbabies.org/team/ParklandHealth), and for a \$25 donation, you will receive a Parkland March for Babies T-shirt to wear at the walk. Parkland will also have a tent at the event, so be sure to stop by.

March for Babies is a charitable walking event sponsored by the March of Dimes. It began in 1970 as the first charitable walking event in the United States, and today is held yearly in 1,100 communities across the nation. The event has raised more than \$2 billion since 1970, with proceeds helping to fund research to prevent premature births, birth defects and infant mortality.

For more information on participating, contact LaTrena Hendrix at [Latrena.Hendrix@phhs.org](mailto:Latrena.Hendrix@phhs.org) or Cari Brown at [Cari.Brown@phhs.org](mailto:Cari.Brown@phhs.org).

## Onward & Upward

**Behavioral Health Social Work:** Catina Groves to Social Worker (LCSW)

**Chemistry:** Mariela Torres to Senior Medical Technologist

**Emergency Services Administration:** Sarah Draper to Nursing Operations Specialist

**ENT/Oral Surgery Clinic:** Emily Garcia to Patient Navigator

**Health Records Management:** Kelsey Williams to Senior Health Information Management Associate

**Hospital at Home:** Mamba Tshimanga to Senior Registered Nurse – Acute Care

**Infectious Disease/OPAT:** Sandra Wright to Senior Medical Practice Assistant

**Linen Services:** Maribel Cavazos to Linen Inspection Repair Technician

**Medicine PCU:** LaDetra Newton to Unit Technician

**Mother/Baby B:** McKindley Jordan to Senior Registered Nurse – Mother Baby

**North Texas Poison Center:** Vannia Wrobel to Senior Community Health Educator

**Observation Unit:** Hebron Araya to Unit Technician

**Ortho A:** Ashley Byrom to Director – Utilization Review and Care Management

**Radiology – CT Scan:** Kentrell Brazzell to Computed Tomography Scan Technologist

**Release of Information & Customer Service:** Emily Diaz to Health Information Management Analyst II

**Surgical PCU:** Ma Fatima Castaneda and Joann Tavu to Senior Registered Nurse – ICU CCU PCU

## Retirements

- Larry Conwright, Lead Network Technician, IT – Network and Telecom
- Mary Lavallais, Patient Care Assistant, Hospitalist A
- Dawn Lewellen, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, Anesthesiology
- Kathy Whitfield, Advanced Practice Provider II – Neonatal Resuscitation Program, Newborn APRNs



Parkland

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.