

Now

Parkland

Information and stories for Parkland employees
Oct. 21 – Oct. 27, 2024

As our Joint Commission Survey window continues, readiness is key



P.2 Nominations for the 2025 DFW Great 100

P.3 Stop by the Diversity Fair on Oct. 23

P.4 Interested in hosting a multi-semester intern?

As survey window continues, readiness is key

Parkland Health is in our window for our survey with The Joint Commission now through February 2025. As the Regulatory & Accreditation Affairs department makes rounds and shares information about survey etiquette, process and to answer any questions, here are a few important tips to prepare areas for continued readiness.

Check and discard expired or outdated patient care items in:

- Crash carts
- Supply carts
- Cabinets
- Supply rooms
- Drawers
- Closets
- Any place items with expiration dates are stored

Take time to double check for hidden supplies. Surveyors often look in places that are not often used such as the back of supply carts, cabinets and random drawers.

- Ensure nutritional items are labeled and dated per policy.
- Ensure supplies without an expiration date are not soiled or have broken packages.
- Check pill packs that hold sterile instruments to ensure they are not punctured and labeled per current guidelines. If you are concerned, please remove it from service and send it to sterile processing.
- Monitor and remove tape residue in patient care areas. The residue hinders those areas from thoroughly being cleaned and may cause an infection control concern.



On the [intranet homepage](#), there are several resources available under the “Regulatory” tab, including the Accreditation Readiness Handbook, Clinical Sweep Checklist, Standards and National Patient Safety Goals.

The Accreditation Readiness Handbook is designed to help all members of the team in preparing to answer the surveyor’s questions. Surveyors will ask several questions when touring your departments to ensure the team has an overall understanding of the care being provided. The Accreditation Readiness Handbook is located [here](#) or by visiting the Regulatory & Accreditation Affairs Department page under Links – Accreditation Readiness Pocket Guide.

Another tool that can help your department maintain a state of survey readiness is the [Clinical Sweep Checklist](#). Consider having each shift or different staff members complete the checklist so you have fresh eyes and your department is familiar with the standards and where items are located.

To learn more, email RegulatoryAccreditat@phhs.org.

► **Nominate a deserving nurse for the 2025 DFW Great 100**

It’s that time of the year to nominate an outstanding Parkland nurse for the 2025 DFW Great 100! Nominations are now open at www.dfwgreat100nurses.com/nominations and will be accepted until Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025. Winners will be announced in early February and celebrated at the Dallas Meyerson Symphony Center on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.



THE GREAT 100 NURSES
Dallas • Fort Worth

Rules for nominations:

- Nominees must be Registered Nurses who live in one of these counties: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise or Van Zandt.
- The nomination letter should not include any patient names, the nominee’s name or specific identifications about the Registered Nurse (e.g., place of employment). This is to help aid in the blind judging process. Letters submitted that include nominee’s name or other forms of identification will be disqualified without notice.
- The letter of recommendation MUST address each of the following categories: role model, leadership qualities, service to the community, compassionate caregiver and significant contributions.
- Past Great 100 recipients are not eligible to be re-nominated. A complete listing of past years’ Great 100 Nurses is available at www.dfwgreat100nurses.com/past-great-100-nurses.

Sample past winning Great 100 letters are also available on the Great 100 website at www.dfwgreat100nurses.com/nominations. If you have any issues with submissions please email info@dfwgreat100nurses.com If you need assistance writing/editing your nomination please Parkland.Nurses@phhs.org and a member of the PCAPP team will be happy to assist you.

▼ Lasting Impressions: Velma Stevens



Each week, "Lasting Impressions" features a Parkland employee who does exceptional work and provides excellent customer service. This week's "Lasting Impressions" features Velma Stevens, Supervisor, Nutrition Services.

"Velma is amazing. She supports teams with Nutrition Services requests, often catering to several requests at any one time. Her work is done behind the scenes but it is exemplary. She reminds you when your orders are ready for pick up or when she has delivered an order. She cross checks orders and ensures that everything is aligned. She is such a pleasure to work with. Thank you, Ms. Velma, for all you do to serve our patients and employees."



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

Parkland WebEx backgrounds now available

WebEx now includes several Parkland-themed virtual backgrounds available for use in your meetings and calls! When joining a meeting, use the drop down next to the Start/ Stop video button to see your backgrounds and pick your favorite. Remember that your video needs to be on in order to utilize a virtual background.

Note: if you have the "mirror my video" box checked, the virtual background will appear backwards to you; however, it will appear correctly for everyone else in the meeting. The box can be unchecked for the background to appear natural for you.

► Stop by the Diversity Fair on Oct. 23

In support of fostering a sense of belonging and advancing health equity for all at Parkland, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion invites you to join us for a Diversity Fair and Fashion show from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23, in the Moody Wellness Garden. This year's International Parade of Fashions will include athletic team sport representation, as well as showcasing the rich diversity of cultures within Parkland Health.

By celebrating both cultural heritage and shared experiences that generate deep emotional connections the event underscores Parkland's commitment to inclusive, equitable care for all. Attendees can enjoy live music, a 360 photobooth and special treats. To sign up as a model, please complete the application found at [this link](#). If you would like to assist and volunteer, please sign up [here](#). For more information about this event, email DEI@phhs.org.

Learn more about our newest ERG at the Oct. 23 Diversity Fair

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is announcing the launch of the newest employee resource group: Opening Minds to Neuro-Inclusion (OMNI). The purpose of OMNI is to promote neuro-inclusion and serve as a valuable resource for Parkland's patients, employees and community. You can meet the co-chairs of OMNI next to Park Market during the Diversity Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 23. We hope to see you there!

► See you Nov. 9 for Parkland-recognized day at Six Flags!

Join us from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, at Six Flags where Parkland employees can visit the park at a discounted rate.



- Employees can attend for \$45.99 per person, covering admission and parking (children under 2 will receive free admission).
- A "mega deal" food option, including a meal, snack and drink will be available for \$19.99 per person.
- Additionally, employees who purchase a "day of" \$45.99 ticket on Nov. 9 are eligible to purchase a season pass for a discounted rate of \$20.99. Details are available [here](#).

Discounted tickets are available for purchase for this one-day event via the Parkland Gift Shop. Payroll deduction will be an option for payment and Six Flags will also provide a link for online purchasing. For more information on this exciting event, contact the Gift Shop at ParklandGiftShop@phhs.org or (469)-419-0065.

*Please note: these tickets are available specifically for the Nov. 9 event and not for other dates

► Interested in hosting a multi-semester intern?

Parkland's Hire a Multi-Semester Internship Program has returned for 2025, offering leaders the chance to receive additional assistance for their departments while providing an excellent career opportunity for some of Dallas' most inspired, ambitious students.

Workforce Development collaborates with community organizations to offer paid internships for graduate and senior undergraduate students in Dallas. Students will be matched based on their area of interest and Parkland's budgetary considerations.

Please note: We are interested in hosting interns in departments where they could eventually transition into a full-time role. This aligns with our commitment to providing career opportunities for those in the community we serve.

[Those interested can apply here.](#)



You have until the deadline of Friday, Nov. 15, to apply. For more information on Parkland's intern programs, contact Robin Pathak, Workforce Development Program Manager at WDInternshipPrograms@phhs.org.

► Get your nursing school questions answered

Interested in going to nursing school, but don't know where to start? Clinical Education & Academic Partnerships is hosting a come-and-go event hosting our Parkland affiliated nursing schools from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24, in the Private Dining Room. At this event you can meet with nursing school representatives, ask questions about applications and admission, get information on pre-licensure, graduate and doctoral level nursing programs and more.

► MVP ERG honoring those who served this Veterans Day

Are you a veteran or would you like to recognize a loved one who is a veteran? If so, please complete [this form](#) for inclusion in the Veterans Day activities hosted by the Military Veterans at Parkland Employee Resource Group (MVP ERG). Please limit submissions to no more than three per employee. The deadline for inclusion in the 2024 activities is Friday, Nov. 1.

Onward & Upward

Behavioral Health Extended Observation Unit: Ana Zavala Martinez to Psychiatric Technician

Emergency Department: Gabriel Chacon Muniz and Joshua Mathew to Unit Technician

General Surgery: Maria Jauregui to Patient Care Assistant

Information Technologies – Information Security Management: Marvin Grant to IAM SailPoint Engineer

Information Technologies – Technical Support Center: Chaz Burrows to IT Help Desk Specialist

Inpatient Psychiatry: Jasmine Bernard, Angel Cook, Litzy Rios Salinas and Mariah Silva to Psychiatric Technician

Inpatient Rehabilitation: Rae Adams to Patient Care Assistant

Irving Health Center: Stevilyn Gomez to Medical Practice Assistant

Labor & Delivery: Arnecia Law to Unit Technician

Laboratory Support Services: Litzy Ipina to Lab Support Specialist

Maple Women's Health Center: Ivon Salvador to Women's Health Educator

Material Services: Amanda Clinard to Senior Supply Chain Distribution Technician

Medicine Specialties: Angela Vargas to Patient Care Assistant

Observation Unit: Chris Sue to Unit Technician

Oncology Services Clinic: Susan Jacob to Registered Nurse Specialist – Oncology

Perioperative Services Administration: Jessica Carr to Distribution Technician

Patient Financial Services – Patient Access Management: Luis Martinez to Supervisor, Revenue Cycle

Pharmacy – Outpatient: Jorge Ramirez to Senior Pharmacy Technician

Psychiatric Emergency Department: Laila Rincon to Psychiatric Technician

RIGHT Care: Katherine Afflerbach to Social Worker (LCSW)

Southeast Dallas Health Center: Katina Benson to Senior Medical Practice Assistant

Surgical PCU: Brianna Fulford to Unit Technician; Giselle Plasencia to Patient Care Assistant

WISH Advanced Practice Provider Specialty Clinics: Victoria Sims to Advanced Practice Provider II – General

Retirements

- Lawrence Smith, Registered Nurse, Telehealth, Nurse Call Center Operations
- Pushpa Thomas, Senior Registered Nurse, Oral Surgery Clinic



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 or call ext. 28048.