

Parkland



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Information and stories
for Parkland employees
Oct. 30 – Nov. 5, 2023



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From the roof of Parkland to the roof of Africa

Nicole Moler, Advanced Practice Manager, and Jessica Baxter, Patient Safety & Clinical Risk Manager, both work here at Parkland. But they share an even more unique bond: they are both ovarian cancer survivors.

That's why this summer, Nicole, a 5-year survivor, and Jessica, a 17-year survivor, joined the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (NOCC)'s mission to bring "hope to new heights." As a part of this effort, they volunteered to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Kilimanjaro, also known as the Roof of Africa, measures 19,341 feet in elevation and is the highest single free-standing mountain above sea level globally.

The two Parkland team members joined 13 other ovarian cancer survivors, caregivers, and family members dedicated to conquering the disease that accounts for more deaths than

any other gynecologic cancer. The challenge of climbing Kilimanjaro, while not a technical climb, is known to be an extreme altitude mountain trek, with less than 50% of those attempting to reach the summit doing so. Their team of trekkers took seven days to complete their journey. And through a lot of support, on and off the mountain, the NOCC team made it to the peak.

Pictured to the left, you can see Nicole and Jessica holding the Parkland flag atop the Roof of Africa victoriously. To date, this team of 15 has proudly raised \$291,000 to help support NOCC's mission "to save lives through the prevention and cure of ovarian cancer and to improve the quality of life for survivors and caregivers."

With the current risk of a woman getting ovarian cancer during her lifetime at about 1 in 78, there is no reliable diagnostic test or screening, and it is critical to continue to educate everyone on the signs and symptoms of the 5th deadliest cancer. Nicole and Jessica are committed to sharing their knowledge on the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer and continuing to support the survivors and their caregivers in the hope that their efforts help even one woman avoid what they survived. They are a great example of Parkland team members who make a difference both within the health system and beyond.



► Auxiliary scholarship applications open Nov. 1.

The Parkland Auxiliary annually offers Steffen-Aronoff Scholarships to graduating dependent children of full-time Parkland employees who have worked at Parkland for at least one year. The scholarship is only available for graduating high school seniors who will be entering an accredited college/community college, accredited university or accredited technical, vocational or trade school in the fall semester 2024.

Applications will be available beginning Wednesday, Nov. 1, and must be returned by Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024. To receive an application, please contact Maricela Barron via email at Maricela.barron@phhs.org or 469-419-2410 (ext. 72410).

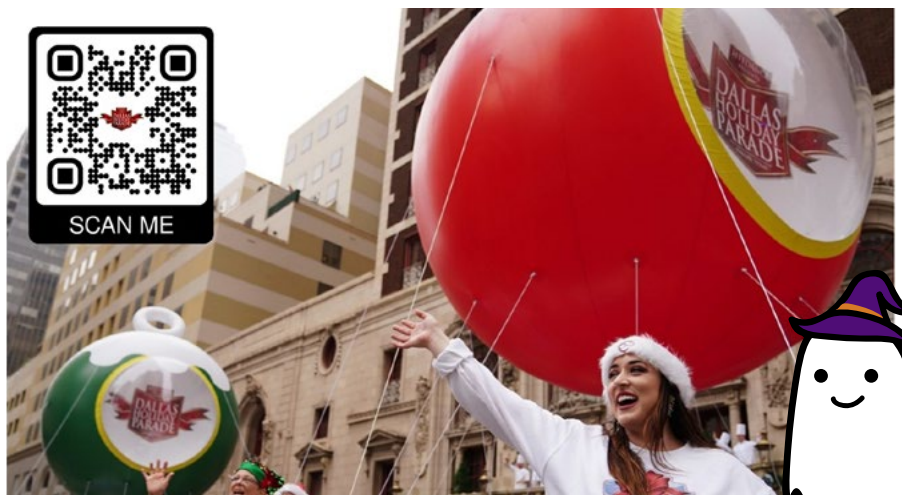
Stop by the Night Shift Fall Back Fair Nov. 4

Parkland's Night Shift Council and Nurses in Support Roles Council are hosting a Fall Back Fair in anticipation of "falling back" at the end of Daylight-Saving Time. The event will be from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4, in the Nursing Center of Excellence (NPC 02-500) on the second floor of the hospital.

Overnight staff is encouraged to come enjoy food, games and entertainment during this special shift. In addition, staff is asked to bring a new pair of socks as a part of Nursing's annual holiday sock drive to benefit our HOMES patients.

▼ Volunteer at the Dallas Holiday Parade

There is an upcoming volunteer opportunity to be a part of the Dallas Holiday Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2. If you are interested, you can sign up at <https://dallasholidayparade.com/volunteer> or by scanning the QR code below.



▼ Lasting Impressions: Armando Quiroz



Each week, "Lasting Impressions" features a Parkland employee who does exceptional work and provides excellent customer service. This week's "Lasting Impressions" features Armando Quiroz, Bilingual HIV Test Counselor, Ryan White Part C.

"I met Armando at the Moody Clinic casually in passing the Guest Services desk. Later he struck up a conversation and asked me if I was interested in volunteering with his health event through Parkland's Adult Comprehensive Care and Engagement Support Services (ACCESS) Clinic. My first event where I joined Armando and his lovely wife was at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in downtown Dallas last winter. I had not ever seen a crowd of people seeking basic healthcare, dental services, clothes, bags, supplies of various kinds and eye exams plus glasses! It was wonderful to see and be a part of. Parkland was providing free screening for HIV/STDs, plus, referrals to PFS if needed. After that event, I joined Armando to help with more. I witnessed Armando's heart for the community. Armando has a soft voice and tender demeanor. He counsels people, calms the timid to start the conversation. Armando, through Parkland, is making a difference in Dallas. Please thank Armando for his and his team's dedicated efforts to keep Dallas safe, healthy and in the know."



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.

Annual sock drive begins Nov. 1

The Professional Excellence in Nursing (PEN) Council is collaborating with the Homeless Outreach Medical Services (HOMES) UBC Council to host the 4th Annual Sock Drive. The sock drive will begin Wednesday, Nov. 1, and run through Sunday, Dec. 31.

The PEN Council's goal this year is collect 10,000 pairs of socks, with items distributed directly to individuals experiencing homelessness through the HOMES program, and they need your help. Those who donate will be made eligible for prize drawings, which will be held on Nov. 17 and Dec. 1, 15 and 29 (dates subject to change).

Drop off locations:

- Nursing Center of Excellence (NPC 02-505): 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday
- HOMES Office (MOC 04-1234): 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
- Centralized Staffing Office (NPC 01-611): 24/7
- Parkland Gift Shop (NPH 01.450.02):
 - 9 a.m. – 8 p.m., Monday – Friday
 - 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

Each drop-off location will include a drawing box where employees can submit their names to be considered in the weekly drawing. Donate today and help us meet the PEN Council goal.



VIDA ERG hosts Florencia Velasco Fortner on Oct. 30



Parkland's VIDA Employee Resource Group (ERG) will proudly host guest speaker Florencia Velasco Fortner, President & CEO of The Concilio, from noon – 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30. The event, titled "The Power of Hispanic Contributions in the Workforce, Workplace and Community," will be available in-person in the MacGregor W. Day Auditorium (1st floor, Moody Outpatient Center) and virtually via WebEx. To register for this event, [click here](#).

Florencia Velasco Fortner is a highly respected nonprofit executive with over 25 years of experience in community organizing, child advocacy, and Latino leadership. The Concilio impacts over 20,000 individuals annually working to eliminate the cycles of generational poverty in the Latino community. She has received various awards throughout her career including 2019 CEO of the Year from The Center for Nonprofit Management Connect. Most recently she was the first Latina recipient of the 2023 George W. Bush Trailblazer Citation. Her goal is to advance the Latino community and promote equity and opportunity through education, health and wealth initiatives.

Parkland's VIDA ERG meets on the third Thursday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. ERG membership is voluntary and open to all active employees at Parkland in good standing. To join the VIDA ERG or receive updates about their meetings, event, and activities, please email ParklandVida@phhs.org.



► Want to help reboot Schwartz Rounds at Parkland?

Schwartz Rounds is a time set aside where members of the organization meet and share experiences contributing to their self-care. It was best said by one participant: "Schwartz Rounds are a place where people who don't usually talk about the heart of the work are willing to share their vulnerability, to question themselves. The program provides an opportunity for dialogue that doesn't happen anywhere else in the hospital."

Schwartz Rounds have not been held at Parkland since before the COVID-19 pandemic, and we need your help in bringing them back. Organizers are looking for an amazing group of Parkland team members to join the Schwartz Center Planning Committee. This committee will:

- Ensure that compassionate care is a fundamental element in the provision of care for patients.
- Provide a safe environment for staff to discuss the emotional and social issues faced in caring for patients and families.

The committee will meet once a month for an hour to discuss topics, identify panelists and debrief the previous Schwartz Rounds. If you are interested in being on the committee, please complete the application and forward to Kirsten.Drake@phhs.org. If you want to learn more about Schwartz Rounds, you can do so at www.theschwartzcenter.org/programs/schwartz-rounds/.

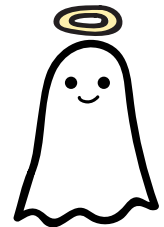
► Guidelines for using personal space heaters

With temperatures getting colder, there has been an increase in the number of non-compliant personal space heaters identified in Parkland buildings. In addition, the large draw of power from space heaters can cause breakers to trip, shutting off computers and other office equipment. To keep patients, visitors and employees safe, space heaters are restricted from all sleeping spaces unless medically required.

Dress in layers to help keep yourself warm. If everyone in your area is cold, submit an engineering corrective work order by calling ext. 71000. There is only one type of space heater that is allowed. All space heaters must meet the following criteria:

- Must be UL listed with a legible tag attached
- Must be convection type
- Heating elements cannot glow or exceed 212 degrees Fahrenheit
- Must be clean and in good mechanical condition
- Must have overheating protection
- Must have tip-over protection

Please refer to policy LS 01 – 05 Portable Heating Devices in Policy Manager for more information.



Onward & Upward

ARPA Digital Health Grant: Sophia Guckenber to Senior Registered Nurse Specialist – Nurse Clinician

Care Management: Brian Davis to Manager, Social Work
deHaro-Saldivar Health Center: Yvonne Maldonado to Medical Practice Assistant

Emergency Department: Kiara Armstrong to Unit Technician

Emergency Services Administration: Doreen Freeman to Director of Nursing – Emergency Room

Environmental Services – NPC: Angela Byrd to Lead Environmental Services Technician

Gynecology Clinic: Rosalinda Sepulveda to Unit Technician

Information Technologies – Business & Financial Systems: Isaac Obiyale to IT Application Systems – Intermediate

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Administration: Cindi Anderson to Occupational Therapist – PRN

Psychiatric ED: Mareen Booker to Associate Manager, Psychiatric Services

Radiology Administration: ShaRhonda Adams to Referral Coordinator

Radiology Mammography: Antoinette Williams to Referral Coordinator

Ryan White Part A: Saci Blanton to Medical Practice Assistant

Simmons: Ambulatory Surgical Center: Arturo Facundo to Supervisor, Operating Room Aide

Sterile Processing: Tiffani Johnson to Environmental Services Technician

Urology Clinic: Kuriakose George to Licensed Vocational Nurse



Retirements

- Susan Lamb, WISH Advanced Practice Provider Specialty Clinics, Advanced Practice Provider II – General
- Edward Quigley, Environmental Services – NPC, Lead Environmental Services Technician



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.