

# now

Parkland

Stories and information for the employees of Parkland  
Dec. 30, 2024 – Jan. 5, 2025

# *The year at Parkland*

**2024 YEAR IN REVIEW**



# 2024: THE YEAR AT PARKLAND

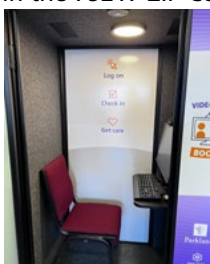
## January

### Born at Parkland during segregation; doctor now medical staff president

Born in an era of segregation and deep racial separatism, James Griffin's career came full circle when he became the first African American to serve as the President of the medical staff at Parkland Health, the very place he was born.

### Parkland introduces new Video Visit Booth for virtual appointments

Parkland unveiled its first telehealth pod, marking the start of an exciting new journey for virtual care. The Video Visit Booth is located at Inspired Vision Compassion Center (IVCC) in the 75217 ZIP Code, one of several communities identified in the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment with significant health disparities. The Video Visit Booth is used for attending scheduled telehealth visits and for scheduling same day telehealth appointments with Parkland physicians and advanced practice providers remotely via audio-video communication.



## February

### Parkland named a 'Best Place for Working Parents' by Dallas Chamber

Parkland was one of three organizations to receive the 2023 Best Place for Working Parents® Dallas Innovator Award 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.



### Celebrating Crystal Charity Ball

The Crystal Charity Ball (CCB) selected Parkland Health Foundation as a beneficiary and will donate \$1 million to support the Pediatric Health Clinic at Parkland's new Richland Health Center.

## March

### Parkland nurses recognized for their many contributions

Eight Parkland nurses were among those honored as 2024 Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. The Parkland nurses recognized include:

- Remigio Acevedo, BSN, RN, CCRN, Surgical Trauma ICU
- Jamie Andrevich, BSN, RN, CEN, Trauma
- Michelle Burkhardt, RN, CSMRN, Orthopedics
- Sobha Fuller, DNP, RN, AMB-BC, NEA-BC, Population Health
- Jessica Nichols, BSN, RN, CPST, Neonatal ICU
- Ifeoma "Ify" Okonkwo, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC, Newborn
- Leslie Pate, BSN, RN, RNC-NIC, Neonatal ICU
- Laura Zebreski, DNP, RN, RNC-NIC, Neonatal ICU



In addition, 11 registered nurses at Parkland were named winners of the 2024 *D Magazine* Excellence in Nursing Awards. Honored as winners in their categories are:

- Jonathan Abalos, BSN, RN-BC, Population Health
- Shontell Angrum, BSN, RN, Peri-Op Services
- Almaz Assefa, DNP, APRN, C-NNICU, NNP-BC, WISH
- Linda Bynum, BSN, RN, CCRN, Surgical Services
- Kimberly Clipp, DNP, APRN, C-NNICU, NNP-BC, Surgical Services
- Courtney Johnson, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, WISH
- Mary Keckeisen, MS, BSN, RN, CCRN, Surgical Services
- Leslie Pate, BSN, RN, RNC-NIC, Neonatal ICU
- Teri Allyn Terrill, BSN, RN, CCRN, Surgical Services
- Lauren Tuohy, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Surgical Services
- Tracy Tyner, PhD, APRN, ACNP-BC, CCRN, Surgical Services



## April

### Dr. Cesar Termulo wins DFWHC Physician of the Year Award

Parkland's Cesar Termulo, MD, Associate Medical Director, COPC Administration, was honored at the 26th Annual DFWHC Employee of the Year Luncheon, winning the Physician of the Year Award. This event takes place annually to recognize and acknowledge the impact of outstanding healthcare professionals across North Texas.



### Vic Summers named Outstanding Internal Auditor by D CEO

Vic Summers, Senior Vice President & Chief Audit Executive, was named Outstanding Internal Auditor by *D CEO* at their 2024 Financial Executive Awards. Vic retired earlier this year, and his contributions to risk management and direct oversight of the audit team helped grow Parkland Health over his more than 35 years of service.

## May

### DCHDPD earns Texas Police Chiefs Association accreditation

The Dallas County Hospital District Police Department (DCHDPD) earned accreditation from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Program. This accreditation is a voluntary process where agencies must prove their compliance with 170 best practices in Texas law enforcement. Only 7% of all law enforcement agencies in Texas have achieved this designation.

### Parkland launches initiative aimed at broadening access to family planning services

Parkland, in collaboration with Trust Her, an initiative of the nonprofit Child Poverty Action Lab, deployed a new mobile clinic dedicated to enhancing access to family planning and women's health services in Dallas. The Women's Wellness Mobile Clinic is stationed at Dallas College campuses throughout the county. This mobile clinic represents a major step forward in addressing the need for accessible family planning and sexually transmitted infection (STI) screening services in the region.



## June

### Parkland recognized as 'Best Regional Hospital for Equitable Access'

Parkland was recognized for its success as a high-performing hospital providing excellent care to patients in underserved communities. The list of "Best Regional Hospitals for Equitable Access" was revealed at "The State of Equity in America," held by *U.S. News & World Report* on June 5, 2024. Parkland was one of 53 hospitals recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* for providing high-quality care to underserved populations.

### \$1 million gift for new Parkland clinic at Dallas College – Richland Campus

Parkland Health Foundation announced a \$1 million gift from the Hoblitzelle Foundation in support of Parkland Health's new Richland Health Center at Dallas College.

The new clinic, opening in 2026, will provide a "one-stop-shop" for patients, providing services ranging from adult and pediatric care to radiology. In a location that has a growing immigrant and refugee population, the clinic will provide essential services and alleviate overflow and wait times at existing neighboring health centers.

To recognize this gift, the Adult Clinic will be named in honor of the foundation and its late founders, Karl and Esther Hoblitzelle.



## July

### Parkland earns sustainability honors

Parkland was recognized with three sustainability honors.

#### ENERGY STAR certification

Parkland's main campus yet again earned the Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR certification for 2024. Parkland's ENERGY STAR score is 90, meaning that it is more energy efficient than 90 percent of similar properties nationwide. Parkland is the largest ENERGY STAR® certified healthcare campus in the U.S.



#### Energy to Care Awards

Parkland was named the recipient of the Sustainability Champion Award as well as the Sustained Performance Award by The American Society for Healthcare Engineering at their 2024 Energy to Care Awards.

The Sustainability Champion Award is the program's highest distinction, given to only 21 healthcare facilities nationwide, for demonstrating strong leadership in pursuit of healthcare decarbonization and using saved resources to support patient care. The Sustained Performance Award recognizes past Energy to Care Award winners who have continued to meet their sustainability goals by maintaining or further reducing annual emissions and energy usage intensity.

### Parkland named one of the Healthiest Employers in Texas

Parkland was recognized as one of the 2024 Healthiest Employers of Texas! This award, presented by Healthiest Employers®, recognizes organizations that prioritize the health and well-being of their employees. Parkland has been ranked as one of the top 10 large employers (10,000+ employees) in the state on the annual list.

## August

### Parkland awarded Sustainable Healthcare Certification from The Joint Commission

Parkland Health earned The Joint Commission's Sustainable Healthcare Certification (SHC) by prioritizing environmental sustainability through decarbonization efforts. The certification demonstrates Parkland's achievement in establishing structure, rigor and accountability to accelerate these efforts.



### Parkland receives multiple recognitions from American Heart Association



Parkland received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines® – Coronary Artery Disease STEMI Receiving Center Gold recognition for its commitment to offering rapid, research-based care to people experiencing a specific type of heart attack known as an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), known to be more severe and dangerous than other types of heart attacks. Parkland also received the American Heart Association's Target: Type 2 Diabetes™ Honor Roll award, for

aiming to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to heart attack.

### Parkland launches Postnatal Nurse Home Visitor Program

Parkland launched a new postnatal nurse home visitor program, which aims to help new mothers build a healthy and secure relationship with their child, while connecting them to services and resources based on their family's needs. Through this program, Parkland nurses visit mothers and newborns in their home, serving as a crucial touchpoint for families, offering support and resources tailored to their needs. This universal approach aims to address the heightened demand for nurse home visits.

## September

### WISH pilot program raises awareness of post-birth warning signs

In an effort to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality, WISH launched a pilot initiative to raise awareness of post-birth warning signs that moms may experience after they're discharged from the hospital. Any postpartum patients discharged from 7B now receive a band that says "Just delivered. Still at risk." These bands are a visual cue to alert healthcare providers that this patient is in the immediate postpartum period and their symptoms may be related to pregnancy.

Additionally, patients receive an information card at discharge with post-birth warning signs education. This card can help patients recognize post-birth warning signs and know what to do next.

### Parkland Receives Laura Scott Outstanding Influenza Season Activities Award

The Cancer Program at Parkland was honored with the prestigious 2023-2024 Laura Scott Outstanding Influenza Season Activities Award by the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit (NAIIS). This accolade was presented in recognition of Parkland's exemplary efforts in improving vaccination rates and practices during the influenza season.



## November

### Parkland wins ANCC Pathway Award® for CROWN Project

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) announced Parkland Health as the recipient of the prestigious 2024 ANCC Pathway Award® to implement its innovative, patient-centered program, the CROWN Project.



The CROWN Project aims to address hair care disparities among hospitalized adult patients with textured hair, improving patient well-being by offering culturally appropriate hair care products and training for nursing staff to ensure that the specific grooming needs of over 12,000 patients treated annually with textured hair are met.

## December

### Parkland a 2025 High Performing hospital for maternity care

U.S. News & World Report named Parkland as a 2025 High Performing hospital for Maternity Care. This is the highest award a hospital can earn as part of U.S. News' Best Hospitals for Maternity Care annual study. Parkland earned a High Performing designation in recognition of maternity care as measured by factors such as severe unexpected newborn complication rates, birthing-friendly practices and transparency on racial/ethnic disparities, among other measures.

## Happy Anniversary!

- Parkland (130 years)
- Kidney Transplant (60 years)
- North Texas Poison Center at Parkland (40 years)
- Dallas Healthy Start (30 years)
- Global Diabetes (10 years)
- SPARKS (5 years)



Care. Compassion. Community.

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To publicize your news in Parkland Now, please send all submissions to Employees@phhs.org or call ext. 28048.