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Vol. 21 Issue 48

MARCH OF DIMES ANNOUNCES NURSE OF THE YEAR WINNERS



Torres Schlitte, RN, BSN, CNOR, CRCST Other Nursing Specialty category WINNER - Melissa Alvillar, RN, BSN, RNC-OB, CRCST Nursing Administration category WINNER - Meagan Garibay, RN, BSN, CIC Infection Control & Occupational Health category WINNER - Courtnie Alberry-Minnear, RN, BSN Emergency category WINNER. (Photo Provided)

March of Dimes announced the Nurse of the Year awards at a virtual ceremony on October 1st. The event recognized nurses who demonstrate exceptional leadership, excellence and service in nursing. "It is an honor to be able to recognize these outstanding individuals, said Karyl James, Mercy OKC Community Chief Nursing Officer and Event Chair. "What makes this especially meaningful is that even through a national pandemic, we were able to celebrate and recognize these dedicated and compassionate nurses while helping the March of Dimes fight for the health of moms and babies.", said James.

Congratulations to the 2020 Nurse of the Year winners:

ADVANCED PRACTICE

Karen Brown, Long Term Care Specialists

CHARGE NURSE

Christen Hickey, The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine CRITICAL CARE (sponsored by INTEGRIS)

Melissa Colbert, INTEGRIS Baptist

Medical Center

Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care Offers Rapid COVID-19 **Testing**

Mercy Go Health... URGENT CARE

Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care continues to make significant advances in its COVID-19 response for the Oklahoma City community, today announcing the availability of Rapid COVID-19 testing at all seven locations across the metro area. The urgent care centers are utilizing the Abbott IDNOW molecular diagnostic test, which provides results in approximately 15 minutes.

Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care understands the important role time plays in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and is dedicated to being part of the solution. Rapid testing is a critical component in keeping our communities safe and healthy as it enables patients to quickly quarantine and inform others who may have been exposed.

"At Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care, we are committed to helping our patients get the best care possible, and to fighting the spread of COVID-19 nationwide. Delivering test results to patients this quickly can have a significant impact on the spread of the virus," said Sherry Buebendorf, regional market president for Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care. "The fast results produced by Abbott ID NOW molecular test is a game changer. With it, we can offer almost immediate results and help patients

See TESTING Page 3

See AWARDS Page 2

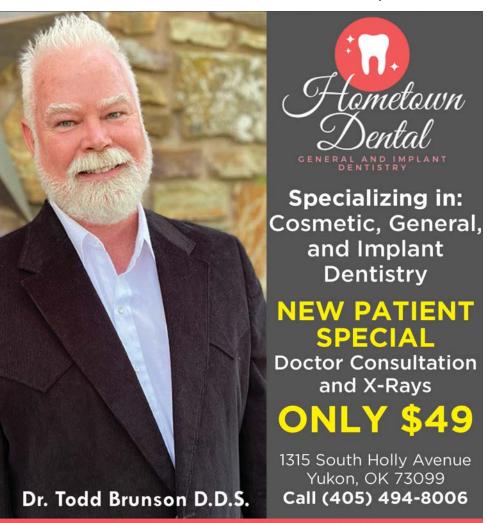


Jennifer Renner, RN, BSN, CNOR Surgical Services - Melissa Alvillar, RN, BSN, RNC-OB, CRCST Nursing Administration category WINNER - Courtnie Alberry-Minnear, RN, BSN Emergency category WINNER - Meagan Garibay, RN, BSN, CIC Infection Control & Occupational Health category WINNER - Torres Schlitte, RN, BSN, CNOR, CRCST Other Nursing Specialty category WINNER- Debbie Cofer, RN, BSN, CPHQ Quality & Risk Management - Paula Griffith, RN, BSN, RNC-OB, NE-BC Nursing Management - Heather Love, RN, MSN, CPHRM Quality & Risk Management (Not photographed but nominee - Lana Jackson, RN, BSN, CEN Emergency. (Photo Provided)

AWARDS Continued from Page 1

EDUCATION (sponsored by Ascension St. John)

Cassie Walden, Ascension St. John Medical Center EMERGENCY (sponsored by Norman Regional Hospital) Courtnie Alberry-Minnear,



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Comanche County Memorial Hospital

GENERAL MEDICAL/SURGICAL (sponsored by Mercy)

Anice Hunter, Mercy Hospital

INFECTION CONTROL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

(sponsored by Mercy)

Megan Garibay, Comanche County Memorial Hospital MANAGED CARE (sponsored by The Le Norman Family)

Jenny Campbell, Heritage Hall **NEONATAL/PEDIATRIC** (sponsored by The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine)

Marci Frias, The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Melissa Alvillar, Comanche County Memorial Hospital NURSING MANAGEMENT (sponsored by The Le Norman Family)

Evelyn Radichel, INTEGRIS Health Edmond

OTHER NURSING SPECIALTIES

Torres Schlitte, Comanche
County Memorial Hospital
QUALITY & RISK
MANAGEMENT (sponsored by
RCB Bank)

Kristi Booker, The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine RISING STAR

Lauren Newell, INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital **SURGICAL SERVICES** (sponsored by Regent Bank)

Brett Gowdy, Chickasaw Nation Medical Center

WOMEN'S HEALTH (sponsored by the Le Norman Family)

Janae Baldwin, INTEGRIS Bass Baptist Health Center

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Virginia Hubble, INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center

This year we received over 350 nominations, 51 finalists and 19 Facilities! All award recipients were determined by a distinguished selection committee comprised of health care professionals. Whether serving as health care providers, educators, researchers, volunteers or advisors, nurses play a critical role in advancing the March of Dimes mission to fight for the health of every mom and baby. Premature birth and its complications are the largest contributors to infant death in the United States and pregnancy-related death has more than doubled over the past 25 years. From advocacy to education to research, we are working to level the playing field so that all moms and babies are healthy.

The Nurse of the Year awards are supported by Presenting sponsor The Le Norman Family, Gold sponsor Mercy, Silver sponsors,

Continued on next page



Marci Frias, The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine - Pediatric Nurse of the Year and Christen Hickey, The Children's Hospital at OU Medicine -Charge Nurse of the Year. (Photo Provided)



Anice Hunter, Mercy Hospital Rainbow Shirt (winner). (Photo Provided)

AWARDS **Continued from Page 2**

Ascension St. John, INTEGRIS, The Children's Hospital at OU Medical Center, Bronze sponsors, Stillwater Medical Center, Norman



Jenny Campbell, Heritage Hall -Manage Care Winner. (Photo Provided)

Regional Health System, Media sponsor iHeart Media and GrassFire Creative.

March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies. We support research, lead programs and provide education and advocacy so that every baby can have the best possible start. Building on a successful 80-year legacy of impact and innovation, we empower every mom and every family. Visit marchofdimes.org or nacersano.org for more information. Visit shareyourstory.org for comfort and support. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter.

TESTING Continued from Page 1

plan their next steps for care."

To receive a Rapid COVID-19 test, you must schedule a Virtual Visit or save your spot online to be evaluated by a provider for testing at a nearby center. Please schedule a rapid test online in advance with a virtual visit.

centers are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday

and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, including holidays. Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care is in-network with most major insurance plans, but please be aware that rapid testing may not be covered. For patients without health insurance, we offer affordable selfpay rates. Learn more about the conditions we treat, save your spot, pre-register, and view a All Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care full list of in-network insurance plans by visiting us online at www.gohealthuc.com oklahoma.

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CAREERS IN NURSING

CARING FOR PATIENTS STILL STRONG: MERCY HOSPITAL OKC

Vickie Jenkins, Staff Writer

"Oklahoma Heart Hospital and Mercy have demonstrated a successful partnership in north Oklahoma City," said Peggy Tipton, chief operating officer for Oklahoma Heart Hospital. "We are excited to expand our partnership and offer patients in south Oklahoma City a wider range of health care services."

Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City is the new addition to Oklahoma Heart Hospital, offering Outpatient imaging-Xray, ultrasound, CT scan, MRI and mammography, Inpatient care, Inpatient pharmacy, Inpatient and outpatient surgery, Inpatient and outpatient GI-endoscopy, suites, Cancer clinic, Cancer infusion, Lab draw, and Chapel.

have a perfect fit as far as

their job goes. It's as though they are drawn to their area of expertise; a real desire to care for others. This is the case for Jana biggest reward? "I enjoy caring Brauer, BSN, RN, Charge Nurse. "I wanted to be a nurse as long as I can remember," she said. "My first job that I had was a Nursing Assistant at Jane Phillips Hospital in Bartlesville, OK. When I graduated from OU College of Nursing, I worked at OUMC in the ICU. Working with patients that were critically ill was very rewarding and pushed me to learn even more," commented.

Over the years, Jana worked in different areas of the hospital. "I worked in Med/Surg, ICU, OR, Critical Care Float Pool, Home There are some people that Health, Case Management and Nurse Management. My favorite

bedside," she said.

As a nurse, what is your for the patients and the fact that I am helping them get better. I want to take care of them in the best way that I can. I treat them like I want to be treated. The biggest challenge is time management. That is something that is hard to avoid. I try to prioritize my time and that seems to make things run a lot smoother," Jana said. "Staying organized is very helpful," she added. Overall, Jana is a very compassionate person, looking for the best in each person. Her number one hobby is watching sports. "I love watching all kinds of sports," she said with a smile.

Asking Jana what advice she

has always been anything at the would give to someone wanting to go into the medical field, she replied, "I would tell them that nursing is one of the most rewarding careers they could go into. There are so many different areas they can choose from, and they should decide what is the right fit for them. When they find their niche, they will know it. I would also tell them to never stop learning. Technology has changed so much over the years. The biggest improvement is probably the nursing documentation. I have been a nurse for over thirty years and there is so much more documentation required now. Computers are definitely a must for nursing. Can you image not having the latest technology?"

See CARING Page 5



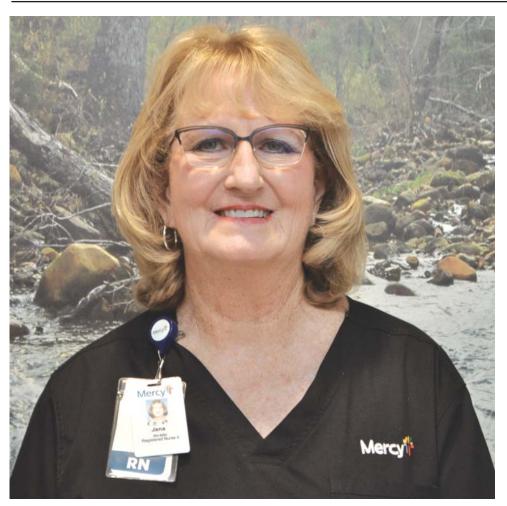
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Jana Brauer, RN is a Charge Nurse at Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City South. Being a nurse for thirty-eight years, technology has changed but the love of caring for patients is still strong and alive for Jana.

CARING Continued from Page 4

Do you have any family members in the medical field? "I am very proud to say that I have two nieces that are RN's," Jana said with a smile. "One niece is in Texas and the other one is in Arkansas," she added.

What qualities make a good nurse? "I think a nurse needs to have plenty of patience, be very compassionate to others, be well organized, and have plenty of respect and integrity. I am blessed to work with wonderful co-workers who support each other and lift each other up. Teamwork is so important in the medical field."

How has the Coronavirus affected your life? "Screening and visitor limitations continue in the new hospital as well as masking requirements. In order to best serve in the

community, Mercy strongly encourages everyone to continue following the basic three W's wash your hands, wear a face covering and watch your distance of six feet," Jana replied. "We must all be cautious about our surroundings and follow the rules that we are given. It takes all of us to fight the coronavirus," she added.

"Like everyone else, COVID-19 has changed our lives like we have never seen before. Here at the hospital, we are careful to take every precaution to protect the patients and ourselves. We wear masks always and wash our hands constantly. Everyone has their temperature checked before they enter the hospital. Hopefully, things will get better soon but until then, we will continue to care for our patients and our families in the best way that we can," Jana explained.

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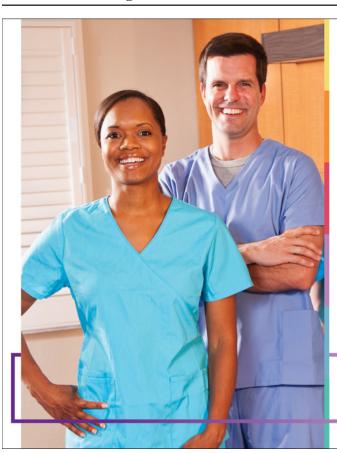
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140 GENERAL NURSING

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OU College of Medicine Partners With U.S. Department of Defense to Address Problematic Sexual Behavior

sexually in ways that are harmful to others or themselves, the stigma surrounding the issue can be paralyzing for everyone affected. However, data shows that treatment for problematic sexual behavior in youth is highly effective. Faculty members at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center are among the nation's leaders on this topic, and they recently received a federal grant to assist the U.S. Department of Defense in addressing problematic sexual behavior of youth in the military.

Sexual Behavior of Youth (NCSBY) is housed within the OU College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics. Its personnel have been trailblazers in the research and treatment

When young people act out of problematic sexual behavior of the science about the appropriate youth, and in training parents, caregivers, healthcare providers and others around the world to prevent and respond to incidents.

> NCSBY's new work is funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, a component of the U.S. Department of Justice. NCSBY is assisting the U.S. Department of Defense in developing training materials and resources to address the issue of youth problematic sexual behavior in all branches of the military.

"This is an issue that The National Center on the communities and people worldwide struggle to address," said clinical child psychologist Jane Silovsky, Ph.D., director of NCSBY. "But the Department of Defense has done a remarkable job of understanding

response to the children with behavior problems, as well as their caregivers and the children who are impacted."

In many cases, problematic sexual behavior in youth involves one young person harming another young person, Silovsky said. Studies show the behavior peaks between the ages of 12 and 14, and that young people rarely act out on strangers; most of the time, they're acting out on siblings, cousins, schoolmates and others within their social networks. Exposure to violence is a major risk factor, whether it's domestic violence, physical abuse, harsh parenting practices, or community violence. Exposure to sexualized media is another risk factor; young people

can access pornography on any device, despite the best efforts of their caregivers, Silovsky said. In addition, there are individual risks, such as a child having developmental disabilities, being on the autism spectrum and having impulse disorders.

"These risk factors can impact children's emotional regulation skills, impulse control skills, and their understanding of the rules and how you treat others," Silovsky said. "A common myth is that all youth with problematic sexual behavior are being sexually abused themselves. While sexual abuse is a risk factor and a concern, there are many kids with problematic sexual behavior have not been sexually abused."

See PARTNERS page 12



(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2020 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)

Innovation continues at Northwestern

When Shelly Wells PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS, ANEF began developing Northwestern Oklahoma State University's DNP program, she would talk extensively about it with her BSN students.

The division chair and professor would be bringing something new to the school and the surrounding communities.

And for student Christina Erford, BSN, RN, NPD-BC, she wanted to be part of that first class.

Already sold on the program, she carried out her due diligence.

"When I started looking into programs and comparing it you couldn't beat the cost point for a doctorate and you can't beat the staff," Erford said. "The faculty is amazing."

Her ninth and final semester will end this spring. Outside of 192 clinical hours per semester, Erford will have completed the majority of the program online.

She also completed a week-long session in the summer where students

check in on a Sunday and spend the week in immersive learning until Friday afternoon.

When Erford graduates this May she wants to find either a clinic or urgent care to begin her career.

A Nightingale Award of Nursing Excellence recipient from the Oklahoma Nurses Association, Wells takes pride in her low faculty-to-student ratio and the relationships her faculty has forged at healthcare facilities across northwestern Oklahoma.

Allowing students to learn in their communities creates a natural draw for students. The NWOSU Charles Morton Share Trust Nursing program is among the top in the state in national RN licensing examination (NCLEX) pass rates.

This year will mark the inaugural graduating class for the BSN-DNP program.

"They're all educated as family nurse practitioners with an emphasis on the needs of a rural healthcare community," Wells said. "It will be a fairly good sized class - more than we ever anticipated when we first put this together."

Planning for the program incorporated a focus on creating health care for surrounding communities.

"Our focus was to increase primary care access to rural Oklahoma because rural Oklahoma is in such dire straits when it comes to health care providers," Wells said.

There's little doubt the Alva university is educating nurses to provide healthcare to rural Oklahomans for generations to come.

"They are going to be prepared to walk into a primary care clinic or office and care for patients across the life span," Wells said. "They will have leadership skills that excel many peers - I've been told that by preceptors."

With more than 30 years of teaching experience in nursing, Wells has closely followed the national trend calling for more BSN-prepared nurses.

The attraction of Northwestern has

always been a quality, affordable program with the flexibility of offerings.

The RN to BSN completion program is offered online with no campus requirement. With no traditional clinical hours the program can be completed in 12 months.

"It works well for the working nurse," Wells said.

The traditional BSN program is delivered at four different sites in Northwestern Oklahoma with full-time faculty at each site.

Small class sizes and a low faculty-to-student ratio is also a draw. Eighty percent of faculty are doctorally-prepared, a rarity in a rural state.

"We're a busy, dynamic little place up in northwestern Oklahoma," Wells laughed.

For the next step, Wells is helping Northwestern work towards an acute care practitioner certificate.

"That will help round out the health care provider needs for rural Oklahoma," she said.



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- Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP): FNP, AGACNP and PMHNP
- Doctor of Nursing Practice Completion (MSN-DNP): Executive Leadership Track, Clinical Track and Community-Based Public Health Track
- PhD and BSN-PhD

www.okcu.edu/nursing

OCU pledges to recruit, select and promote diversity by providing equality of opportunity for all persons

SSM Health St. Anthony Temporarily Moving to 'No Visitor' Policy

Measure designed to keep patients, employees, community safe in light of statewide increase in COVID-19 positive cases

In response to a recent dramatic increase in positive COVID-19 cases statewide, SSM Health St. Anthony is temporarily unable to welcome visitors to its facilities. With some exceptions for cases such as labor and delivery, pediatrics and compassionate care, only patients will be permitted to seek care within SSM Health St. Anthony facilities. Visitors will not be permitted until further notice.

"As COVID-19 numbers increase in our state, we continue to treat patients at all levels of care across medical conditions, including COVID-19," said Tammy Powell, president, SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital. "As caregivers, we take seriously our duty to exhaust every measure in our toolkit to slow the spread of this virus. We have reached the point of community spread that we believe moving temporarily to a 'no visitor' policy is the most responsible course of action for our patients, employees and, ultimately, the larger community."

All entrants to SSM Health St. Anthony facilities will continue to be required to wear masks or cloth face coverings and are subject to screening.

"We look forward to a day when the curve has been flattened and we can welcome visitors into our facilities, and we will certainly be watching numbers and adjusting our policies accordingly as time marches on," Powell said. "Until that point, we encourage Oklahomans to help us fight COVID-19 by wearing masks, washing their hands and keeping a safe distance from one another – we're all in this together."



My name is Agnes, but my family calls me "Ike". I was born, raised and graduated from high school in Boley, Oklahoma. I met my husband, Otis, while I was attending business college in Omaha, Nebraska. During our 42 years of marriage we have been blessed with two daughters and two grandchildren. In 2006, I thought I was feeling okay, but noticed I was getting tired more and more. That's when I found out my kidneys were failing. I received a new kidney in May 2012. After writing to my donor family, I learned that a young woman name Holly saved my life. When I see the brightest star in the night sky, I think of my Angel, Holly.

Organ, eye and tissue donation saves lives. Please make your decision to donate life and tell your family. Register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor on your Oklahoma driver's license or state ID card or register online at www.LifeShareRegistry.org. You may also call 800-826-LIFE (5433) and request a donor registration card.



NURSE

Ted's Mexican Escondido



Sarah Wilson Patient Access Rep

Golden Palace



Adalis Parker Patient Access Rep

What is your favorite restaurant in Oklahoma City?
Frontline
Workers Part of Mercy Hospital's team



Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City B.J.'s Restaurant and Brewhouse



Jamaal Surrell Exercise Specialist

Logan's Roadhouse



Donna Doan Concierge

Your care makes a difference.

Your advice to quit tobacco can, too.



Encourage your patients to reach out to the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline for:

- At least a two-week supply of NRT.
- Access to Quit Coaching, text, email support and more.
- Additional medications when prescribed by a doctor for those enrolled in SoonerCare.

Ask your patients about tobacco use and refer them to the **Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline.** For free promotional materials and information, visit **OKhelpline.com**.

MY LIFE MY QUIT.

Need help for patients younger than 18? **My Life, My Quit** offers cessation services for ages 13-17 through live text, phone or web chat. It's free and confidential at **MyLifeMyQuit.com** or text "Start My Quit" to 855-891-9989.



SoonerCare TSET





PARTNERS Continued from Page 8

children are Nor problematic sexual behavior the same as adults who have illegal behaviors or adults with pedophilia who have inappropriate arousal toward children, Silovsky said, and treating them as adults does more harm than good. Rather, the approach involves cognitive behavioral therapy, in which children and caregivers alike build new skills, protective and resilience factors, and learn to manage their emotions. The treatment involves group therapy - the youth in one group, parents/caregivers in another, with time during each session when they're all together.

The good news is that when children and families are connected to evidence-based treatment, the recidivism rate is less than 2%, said licensed clinical psychologist Jennifer Shields, Ph.D., whose expertise with NCSBY is family engagement. With appropriate treatment, supervision and monitoring, most youth with problematic sexual behavior can be maintained in their home or community environment rather than inpatient care, she said.

"That's what gives me hope as a provider - we have empirical evidence that this treatment works for kids," Shields said. "Caregiver involvement is critical to the outcomes. We help parents and caregivers learn better strategies to supervise and guide their children, build healthy relationship skills, and immediately address anything problematic in a way that helps kids learn from the experience and develop better behaviors."

military's Family Advocacy Program to develop training materials that their multidisciplinary team of providers will use to address problematic sexual behavior. In addition to trained to recognize potential problems, Silovsky said.

NCSBY also has a Parent Partnership Board comprised of parents whose families have finished treatment programs and want to support other families who are in the same situation. They developed a guide that supports parents as they talk to their children about sexual behavior.

"As health providers, we can support families and tell them there is hope, but it's entirely different when families with a shared experience get together," Shields said. "Parents come in feeling guilty and judged, but they have a space where they can talk with each other, which also helps to promote healing."

NCSBY's training and technical team expertise was built from over 30 years of research and clinical care for preschool and school-age children and adolescents with problematic sexual behavior and their caregivers at OU Child Study Center. For more information about the work of NCSBY, visit www.ncsby.org.

Training and **Technical** Assistance activities are made possible in part by grant 2016-MU-MU-K053 and 2019-MC-FX-K022 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those NCSBY is working with the of the Department of Justice.



Mercy Makes Changes to Visitation Policy at Oklahoma City Campuses

Enhanced Measures to Combat Increased Spread of COVID-19

Mercy is once again changing its visitor policy at the hospital campus in Oklahoma City and Mercy Clinic locations across the state. Oklahoma is experiencing a dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitals across the state are at maximum capacity.

As a result of these concerning trends, visitors will be limited to protect patients and co-workers.

"We know restricting visitors puts an additional burden on our patients and their loved ones during an already stressful time, but it's the next right step to protecting our co-workers and patients from the spread of COVID-19," said Dr. Chad Smith, chief medical officer for Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City. "More and more patients are coming into our emergency departments for care and bringing visitors along. With community spread so high, we need to reduce the number of people in our facilities congregating in waiting rooms or lobby areas."

Visitor screening will continue at all Mercy locations, masks are required at all times and we continue to urge good hand hygiene.

Those serving as interpreters or acting as health care power of attorney are not considered visitors

The new restrictions are effective Nov. 18, 2020:

Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City:

- Patients receiving inpatient care may have one patient representative per room. Exceptions are listed below:
 - **Intensive Care Unit:**
- ICU patients are not allowed visitors.
- Visitors will be allowed for patients nearing the end of life.

Emergency Department:

- Patients may be accompanied by one patient representative for their initial assessment.
- Visitors will not be allowed to wait with the patient in the lobby and must wait in the car until the patient is assigned to a room.
- Those serving as interpreters or acting as health care power of attorney are not considered visitors

• Suspected COVID-19 patients may not have a visitor.

Coletta Building on the campus of Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City:

• No visitors are allowed for patients receiving follow-up infusion treatments or attending appointments in the medical oncology clinic.

Exceptions are listed below:

- Patients needing an interpreter may have one visitor to interpret for them.
- A visitor will be allowed to come with a patient needing psychological or emotional support during a consultation for a new cancer diagnosis, first treatment or difficult conversations including transitioning to palliative care, hospice or end of life care.

Mercy Edmond I-35 campus:

- Emergency Department:
- Patients may be accompanied by one visitor for their initial assessment.
- Visitors will not be allowed to wait with the patient in the lobby and must wait in the car until the patient is assigned to a room.
- Those serving as interpreters or acting as health care power of attorney are not considered visitors
- Suspected COVID-19 patients may not have a visitor.

Outpatient Surgery

- Patients receiving outpatient procedures are not allowed a visitor.
- A patient's caregiver may assist with helping a patient in the door, if needed, and then must return to their
- Visitors are not allowed to wait in the lobby while a patient is having surgery. They must wait in their car or wait to be called to come and get the patient after surgery.
- xceptions will be made for pediatric patients and patients with an altered mental status.

Mercy Clinics:

• No visitors will be allowed unless necessary for provision of medical care during the visit.

- Those serving as interpreters or acting as health care power of attorney are not considered visitors and are welcome in our clinics.
- Young children may also accompany parents/guardians if

childcare isn't available.

The full visitor policy is available at: https://www.mercy.net/newsroom/2020/03/15/mercy-hospital-oklahomacity-and-mercy-edmond-i-35-restrict-visi/

SITUATION UPDATE: COVID-19

COVID-19 Oklahoma Test Results

Cases	167,261
*Total Cumulative Negative Specimens to Date	1,739,925
*Total Cumulative Number of Specimens to Date	1,917,639
**Currently Hospitalized	1,428
Total Cumulative Hospitalizations	11,020
Identified Deaths in the Past 24 hours	0
Total Cumulative Deaths	1,603

- This week, all 77 Oklahoma counties are in the "orange" risk level for the COVID-19 Alert System. OSDH continues to monitor closely the statewide hospitalization trends for COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 Alert map will be updated every Friday in the Situation Update at 11:00 a.m. This week's map can be seen in this update below the test results chart.
- As OSDH continues to meet with stakeholders across the state, the COVID-19 Alert Map is subject to further revisions as science and public health guidance advances with the ongoing pandemic.
- As of this advisory, there are 167,261 cases of COVID-19 in Oklahoma.
- ullet There are 15 additional deaths identified to report. No deaths were identified in the past 24 hours.
- * One in Beaver County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- * One in Caddo County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- * One in Garvin County, one male in the 50-64 age group.
- * One in Jackson County, one male in the 65 or older age group.
- There are 1,603 total deaths in the state.
- For more information, visit coronavirus.health.ok.gov.

*The total includes laboratory information provided to OSDH at the time of the report. Total counts may not reflect unique individuals.

**This number is a combination of hospitalized positive cases and hospitalized persons under investigation, as reported by hospitals at the time of the report. The data reflect a change in calculation and should not be compared to prior data.

***The purpose of publishing aggregated statistical COVID-19 data through the OSDH Dashboard, the Executive Order Report, and the Weekly Epidemiology and Surveillance Report is to support the needs of the general public in receiving important and necessary information regarding the state of the health and safety of the citizens of Oklahoma. These resources may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be used in any way that would determine the identity of any reported cases.

Data Source: Acute Disease Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health. *As of 2020-11-20 at 7:00 a.m.



Meet the Maddox family. Their thirteen-year-old daughter, SaNiyah, has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair. SaNiyah's entire life – her happiness, her health, her every need – all depends on her family and help from the team at Special Care. But they also have two adorable young sons, demanding jobs and – on top of everything else – they foster an infant who needed a home, too. It's more than most of us could handle.

But here's the big surprise. The Maddoxes not only receive help from United Way agencies, they find room in a budget stretched to its limit and they give to the United Way. **Can you?**

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.



