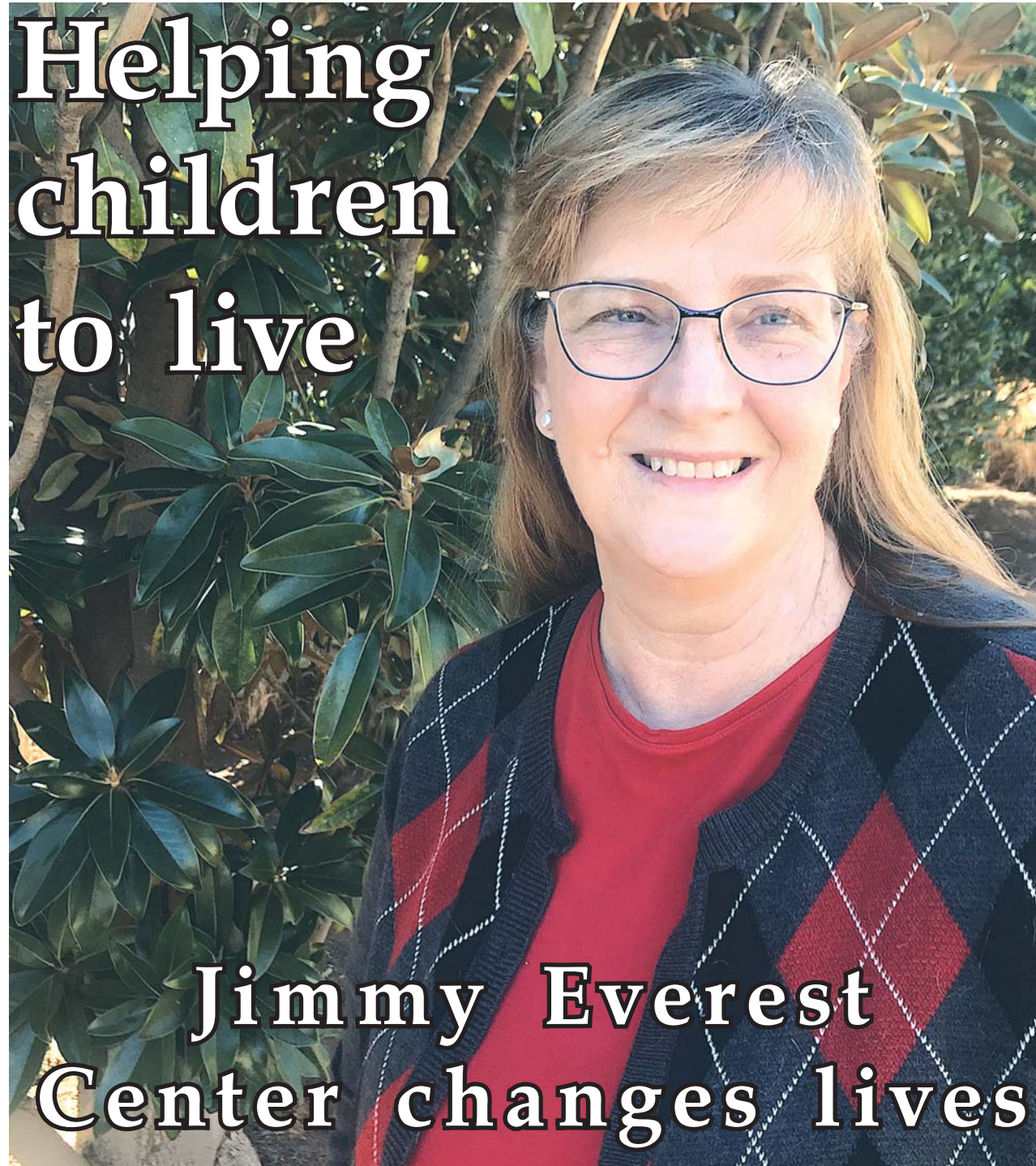




## Helping children to live



## Jimmy Everest Center changes lives

Shirley Harris, RN, nurse manager at the Jimmy Everest Center Clinic at Children's Hospital is grateful that nurses coming into the field are seeking out the knowledge from more experienced nurses.

by James Coburn - staff writer

To see a child free of cancer is nothing short of amazing, said Shirley Harris, RN, and nurse manager at the Jimmy Everest Center Clinic at Children's Hospital, located in Oklahoma City. She is part of a dedicated nursing team caring for patients and families.

The Jimmy Everest Center provides comprehensive care and treatment for children with cancer and blood

disorders.

A nurse can never know the exact amount of stress a child endures, Harris said.

But it's wonderful to see a child grow up and feel like you've been part of making a difference in their lives, even just a small difference makes all the effort of being a nurse

See LIVES Page 2

## Military Medical Teams Set to Leave INTEGRIS Health



In late January, INTEGRIS Health marked a somber milestone. We were caring for a record high 321 COVID patients within our hospitals statewide. A large majority of those patients were being treated at INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. Our caregivers were admittedly exhausted and overwhelmed by a seemingly never ending onslaught of patients. Kerri Bayer, the chief nurse executive at INTEGRIS Health, says the pandemic was taking its toll. "We were reaching our breaking point in every sense of the word. Our caregivers felt depleted and defeated. We were short staffed as some of our own were falling ill themselves or having to miss work to take care of family members or children out of school. It was a dark time, and so we reached out to the government for help."

The Department of Defense, working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, created a special program to assist hospitals across the country - like INTEGRIS Health - who are experiencing difficulties due to the coronavirus. Our application was accepted and help was on the way.

On Feb. 6, the cavalry arrived in the form of 40 medical airmen from the United States Air

See MILITARY Page 3

## LIVES

Continued from Page 1

worth it.

"They are so excited to introduce you to their wife or their husband and their child," she said. "They will tell you what they've done with their lives and what's their job now. Some of them have gone on to medical school and nursing school. It's amazing to know you've made even a small tidbit of impression upon them. You feel like you've done your job well enough that they want to reflect that same feeling as they grow older."

Harris always cared for her classmates when in grade school, so her classmates always predicted that she would become a nurse.

"Throughout the years we've got to make sure that you come into nursing with a very solid ground of knowing who you are," Harris said. "You are there to help the families and the patients."

Harris earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Oklahoma in 1988. Today, she supervises the entire clinical and administrative staffs while assisting all the providers. Additionally, she works on policies and communication with patients regarding concerns. There are

quality improvement projects. Her tasks include filling in when somebody is out of the office, such as insurance investigations.

"There's all kinds of different nursing, but I think it takes a special heart to take care of the patients that have pediatric cancer and blood disorders. You are not only taking care of the patient, but you are also taking care of the immediate family, and sometimes the extended family," Harris said.

Education is helpful for families. They want straight answers and yet cling to some hope.

Nurses aspiring to a career encountering sick children must know that cancer still claims too many lives. It can be very difficult for a nurse, even if they step back and tell themselves not to get too attached, Harris continued.

"You're human and you have to accept that when you walk through the door, you will get attached to someone — that's just the way life is," she said. "And you want to make sure that you have that empathy, and you can interact with the families, because if you can't, you're just not going to make a great nurse."

It's important to be able to step back and know you are taking care of

yourself as well, Harris said.

The Jimmy Everest Center Clinic at Children's Hospital has a wide range of nurses who have been there 13-18 years.

"It's amazing to see a set of nurses in the same specialty, especially now, when nurses can go into other fields," Harris said.

"There is so much more to nursing than just laying your hands on a patient and being able to take care of them," she said.

Advances in technology brings a lot to learn for nurses at Children's Hospital. There's a lot more these days than just basic care. The technological advances that have helped children have been very encouraging for Harris since she graduated from nursing school.

"Just over the past 34 years, even just seeing the new medications that they've come out with chemotherapy, bone marrow transplants, it's amazing what you can see that has increased the life expectancy of a lot of these kids that years ago did not have a chance," Harris said. "It's wonderful to see the treatments so the kids can grow up like they should."

Children are a lot more resilient than people give them credit for, Harris said. Children may become

scared when having an injection or having access to an infusion cord.

"But then they will turn right around and just tell you a joke or want to run up and down the hallways playing with you," she said. "They just bounce back really quick. It's so nice to see them want to live their life and want to go to school and do all of the things a child wants to do, other than 'I'm just here to get my chemotherapy or be sick.'"

Most nurses stay dedicated when entering the field of pediatric oncology at Children's Hospital. Once it's in their heart, it's hard to give up. Being a nurse has touched her life.

"We had a young lady come to the clinic one day. She remembered me starting an IV. This was probably 10 years ago. And she gave me a simple compliment that no one has been able to start an IV that fast. She remembered my name, and it was something so simple, but it just made my day. It's just those simple comments from patients and parents that makes everything go away and it makes your day," she said.

To find out more about the Jimmy Everest Center visit: <https://www.ouhealth.com/find-a-location/oklahoma-childrens-hospital-jimmy-everest-center/>

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## OU Town Hall to Address Brain Health, Caregiving and Resources in American Indian Communities

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center's Oklahoma Dementia Care Network in collaboration with the Choctaw Nation and Oklahoma City-County Health Department, has scheduled an informal meeting to discuss brain health and related factors in American Indian communities. The virtual event will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., March 31.

Caregivers of individuals living with dementia are encouraged to participate. Participants will learn about available resources to help manage brain health, with emphasis on community health workers as brain health resources in American Indian communities in Oklahoma City.

Those who attend the town hall will be eligible to engage in a voluntary question and answer session, which will contribute to research being conducted on brain



health in underserved communities in Oklahoma. The same resources and information are provided to all attendees, regardless of participation in the study.

Keith L. Kleszynski, Ph.D., assistant professor of research in the Section of Geriatric Medicine, at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, leads the study and may be reached at (405) 271-8558 or [keith-kleszynski@ouhsc.edu](mailto:keith-kleszynski@ouhsc.edu).

To register, call 1-800-272-3900, or visit <https://www.ouhealth.com/~events-calendar/event-details/?event=26302>. A link to join the Zoom meeting will be sent to registered participants on the day of the event.

# MILITARY

Continued from Page 1

Force. Military physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists and techs showed up to serve as temporary reinforcements in response to the COVID-19 omicron surge. "Seeing them arrive was seriously like a scene in a movie," proclaims Jordan Cash, the chief hospital executive at INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center. "They were organized and orchestrated and immediately started fighting alongside our frontline workers. They worked side by side with us in the trenches and helped us power through yet another COVID assault."

The airmen spent one month at INTEGRIS Health, clocking in more than 7,000 clinical hours. "They worked in the emergency department, intensive care units and on regular floors. They took care of both COVID and non-COVID patients alike," explains Cash. "They eased the workload on our caregivers and allowed for more manageable patient/staff ratios."

The airmen were on-loan from the Department of Defense for 30

days. "We did have an opportunity to apply for an extension and we would love to keep them here with us forever as permanent members of our team," confesses Bayer. "But with steadily declining COVID numbers and fewer of our staff missing work due to their own illness or their loved ones being infected we simply can't justify keeping them away from their personal lives and families, as much as we selfishly want to."

There are currently 23 hospitalized COVID patients in the INTEGRIS Health system. The airmen's last day will be Wednesday, March 9. The hospital is planning a drive-thru clap-out to formally thank the military medical personnel for the critical assistance they provided and say good-bye to some newfound friends. "I simply don't have the words to tell you what a perfect match this was," says Cash. "From day one, these military men and women were such a natural fit with our team. They provided more than respite and relief, they re-energized us and made us believe again that we will win this war against COVID-19. So yes, this will be a bittersweet farewell no doubt."



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# OU to Meet Oklahoma's Workforce Needs by Nearly Doubling Nursing Class Sizes

The University of Oklahoma announced today its plan to dramatically increase enrollment in the bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program, administered through the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing.

Beginning this fall, the college will expand the size of its nursing class by accepting all qualified applicants, allowing more students the opportunity to pursue a nursing career and, in turn, building up the state's nursing workforce at a time when nurses are needed more than ever. For the incoming fall 2022 class, OU admitted all 555 qualified applicants, compared to fall 2021 when the university was unable to admit more than 225 qualified applicants. Moving forward, OU will admit all qualified applicants to both its traditional BSN program and the accelerated BSN program.

"One of the University of Oklahoma's most important responsibilities is to leverage our strengths to serve the wider interests of our state," said OU President Joseph Harroz Jr. "For over a

century, OU nurses have performed heroic, life-changing work, and increasing our nursing class sizes will extend their impact to even more people and communities across our state. We are incredibly grateful for the support from our state leaders, who share in our vision of building a better future for Oklahoma."

OU's strategy to enhance Oklahoma's nursing workforce was detailed today at the state Capitol at an announcement event with Gov. Kevin Stitt and other state leaders in attendance.

According to the Oklahoma Nurses Association, the state has 712 nurses per 100,000 residents, ranking Oklahoma 46th in the nation in terms of nurses per capita. The last two years have intensified this issue, with the COVID-19 pandemic

causing additional strain and a large portion of the Oklahoma nursing workforce nearing retirement.

"Oklahoma's nursing shortage is of great concern for our state," Stitt said. "While the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on the health care industry, particularly on the nursing workforce, the tireless work of OU and the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing will ensure we are addressing the needs of an evolving health care system and that Oklahomans continue receiving quality care."

To help support this initiative, the university is using funds generated through the sales tax exemption for the University Hospitals Authority and Trust - a new state law approved by the Legislature and Stitt during the 2021 legislative session, additional appropriations

from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, as well as internal university resources, which includes generous donor support.

"In this unprecedented expansion, OU has not lowered the academic standards for admission to our program in any way," said Interim Vice President and Provost of the Health Sciences Center Dr. Gary Raskob. "OU nursing graduates will remain the top qualified and prepared nurses in the state. We're so thankful for the support we have received to make this class increase possible, and for the ingenuity and resourcefulness of our OU faculty and staff to see it made a reality."

Increasing enrollment is only one of the many ways OU is supporting the state's need for more nurses.

See DOUBLING Page 5

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# DOUBLING

Continued from Page 4

In 2021, the university announced it would offer its bachelor of science in nursing degree at two additional locations, partnering with Norman Regional Hospital and Duncan Regional Hospital. The expansion adds to the college's existing locations that offer the traditional BSN - the OU Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center and Cameron University in Lawton.

The OU College of Nursing has also expanded its online degree offerings in recent years. Programs that are offered fully online are the RN to BSN (with clinical practicum hours), Master's in Nursing Administration, Ph.D. in Nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice in Executive Leadership.

OU's nursing programs have earned high honors in nationwide rankings. In its 2022 rankings, U.S. News & World Report placed OU No. 29 in its list of best online master's in nursing programs, and No. 58 for best bachelor of science in nursing programs. OU's RN to BSN online program is ranked No. 2 in the nation by nurse.org.

In collaboration with the Oklahoma Career Tech System, the OU College of Nursing also updated a nurse refresher course geared toward RNs and LPNs whose nursing licenses have become inactive but who would like to rejoin the workforce. The refresher course reduces the learning and time barriers to reactivate one's nursing license - in turn, increasing the number of available registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in Oklahoma.

"The expansion of our BSN program is just the latest way that the OU College of Nursing is developing strategic partnerships to address our state's need for more nurses," said Julie Hoff, dean of OU's Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing. "This unparalleled collaboration reinforces the critical role nurses play in ensuring the health of all Oklahomans. College of Nursing faculty and staff stand ready to welcome our largest nursing class ever later this year."

Founded in 1911, OU's Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing is Oklahoma's largest nursing program. Ranked as the state's top college of nursing and as one of the best online master's programs in



OU President Joseph Harroz Jr. announcing the college will expand the size of its nursing class by accepting all qualified applicants.

the nation, the college continues to build upon over a century of achievements and leaderships - momentum evidenced by the expansion of programs and student successes.

Founded in 1890, the University

of Oklahoma is a public research university located in Norman, Oklahoma. OU serves the educational, cultural, economic and health care needs of the state, region and nation. For more information visit [www.ou.edu](http://www.ou.edu).



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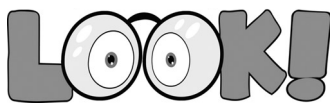
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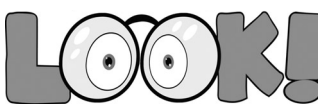
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# Evening of Excellence Set for March 24; Gala Raises Funds for OU College of Medicine Research

The 2022 Evening of Excellence gala, which celebrates healthcare and community leaders while raising funds for research at the OU College of Medicine, will be held March 24 at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Museum.

Honorees are Gregory L. Skuta, M.D., who served for 12 years as president and chief executive officer of Dean McGee Eye Institute, and G. Rainey Williams Jr., chair of the University Hospitals Authority and Trust and chair of the OU Health Board of Directors. Skuta will be presented the Dean's Award for Distinguished Medical Service, and Williams will receive the Dean's Award for Distinguished Community Service. For more information or to purchase tickets, go online to [medicine.ouhsc.edu/alumni/eoe](http://medicine.ouhsc.edu/alumni/eoe).

Evening of Excellence, now in

its 37th year, is organized by the OU College of Medicine Alumni Association. Since the event began, the alumni association has awarded \$3.6 million in grants to 162 researchers in the college.

"We are pleased to honor these two individuals for their dedication to our institution and to the health and well-being of Oklahomans," said Mary Zoe Baker, M.D., president of the OU College of Medicine Alumni Association. "Evening of Excellence is also important for furthering research on our campus. The grants we have been able to provide to researchers have allowed them to launch innovative studies and leverage the results of those studies to obtain larger federal grants."

In 2009, Skuta was named the third president and chief executive officer of DMEI and Edward L.

Gaylord Professor and Chair of the OU College of Medicine Department of Ophthalmology. During his tenure, he oversaw completion of the \$47 million expansion of DMEI, which included construction of the David W. Parke II, M.D. Pavilion and renovation of the Thomas E. Acers, M.D. Pavilion, which together doubled laboratory space and greatly increased clinical capacity.

During Skuta's leadership, the organization brought in over \$45 million in donations, which made possible not only the expansion but a number of other initiatives. These include the renovation of the third floor of the Acers Pavilion into The Chickasaw Nation Center of Excellence for Diabetic Retinopathy and Macular Degeneration; the acquisition of two femtosecond lasers plus numerous other critical pieces of technology; the recruitment of seven vision scientists, 17 ophthalmologists, and four optometrists; and the recognition of faculty with numerous awards as well as the establishment of four endowed positions.

Skuta has contributed to more than 120 publications, book chapters and educational products. He served as a principal investigator for the National Eye Institute-sponsored Advanced Glaucoma Intervention Study and the Collaborative Initial Glaucoma Treatment Study. In addition, he was a member of the Data and Safety Monitoring Committee for the Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study. He has delivered lectures and presentations at more than 250 meetings throughout the world.

Skuta served as president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2014 and received the AAO Life Achievement Honor Award. He currently serves as the chair of the AAO's Foundation Advisory Board and is a member of the Academy's Board of Trustees. He is a board member and treasurer of the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research/Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, and he serves on the board of directors for the Ophthalmic Mutual Insurance Company.

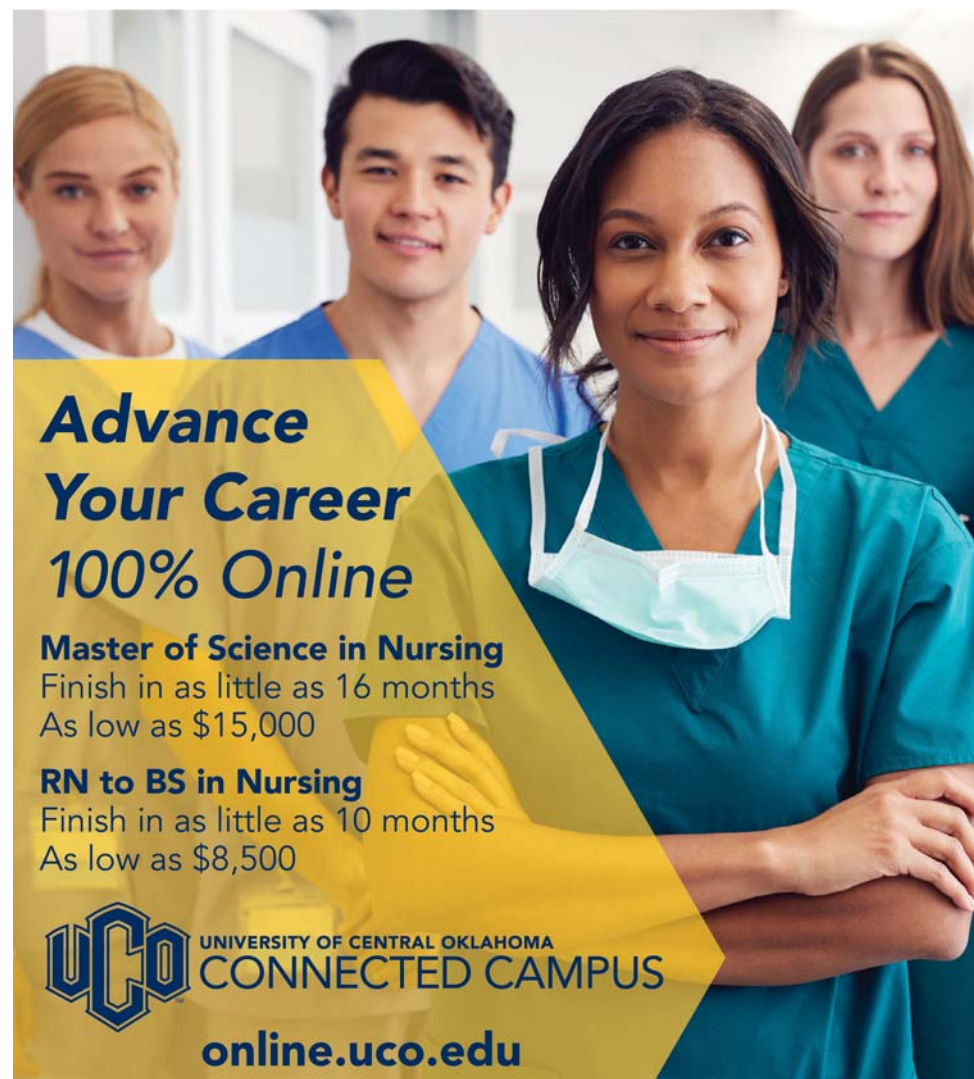
In addition, Skuta is a past president of the American Glaucoma Society and American Eye Study Club, an emeritus director of the American Board of Ophthalmology, a past member of the board of governors of the World Glaucoma Association, a past member of the board of directors of the American Glaucoma Society Foundation, and a past director-at-large for the Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology. He is listed among the Best Doctors in America and Castle Connolly Top Doctors.

Williams is president of Marco Capital Group, a privately owned investment partnership operating in Oklahoma, Texas and the southwestern United States. Marco Capital Group has been an active private investor over the past 25 years, investing in a broad number of private equity, real estate and other alternative investments. Williams has led Marco since it and its predecessors were established in 1989.

Williams serves as lead independent director of BancFirst Corporation and has served on the boards of numerous private companies such as American Trailer Works, Inc., Benham Investment Holdings and Titan Spine, Inc.

Currently, he serves as chair of the University Hospitals Authority and Trust, chair of the OU Health Board of Directors, and chair of the Investment Committee of Presbyterian Health Foundation, Inc. Williams has served as an adjunct professor in the graduate program (MBA) at Price College of Business at OU. He is a former chairman of the YMCA Retirement Fund in New York, the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City, the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, and has served as senior warden of All Souls' Episcopal Church.


He also has held significant offices and/or board positions for numerous charitable organizations on and off the Oklahoma Health Center campus, including Dean McGee Eye Institute, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, the United Way of Metro Oklahoma City, and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.



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# NURSE TALK



*What are your hobbies?*

*"I have two kids so my interests are my children. We love OU sports so we love to watch football games and things outside."*

*"My sisters and I have a small business building stained glass windows."*

*"I'm crafty so I like to do arts and crafts. I like to do painter's things – I like to draw."*



Oklahoma Children's Hospital



Tara Mitchell, RN



Megan Kaeast, RN



Lakeisha Bradford, LPN

**Corban** was a loving little boy with an infectious smile and dazzling blue eyes. He never met a stranger and would melt your heart whenever you saw him. Corban was rambunctious and "all boy".

His name means "A Gift from God," now Corban is with God. Three days after his second birthday, he tragically lost his life in a swimming accident.

In life he gave us joy, in death he gave others joy as his organs and tissues were donated, so others could live. Endless smiles, big blue eyes and giant hugs that gave me the best feeling ever – are just a few things I will miss.

While we miss Corban, we will never forget him, knowing his spirit lives on in the lives of others provides us comfort. I wish you could have met our "little man" because you would have loved him.

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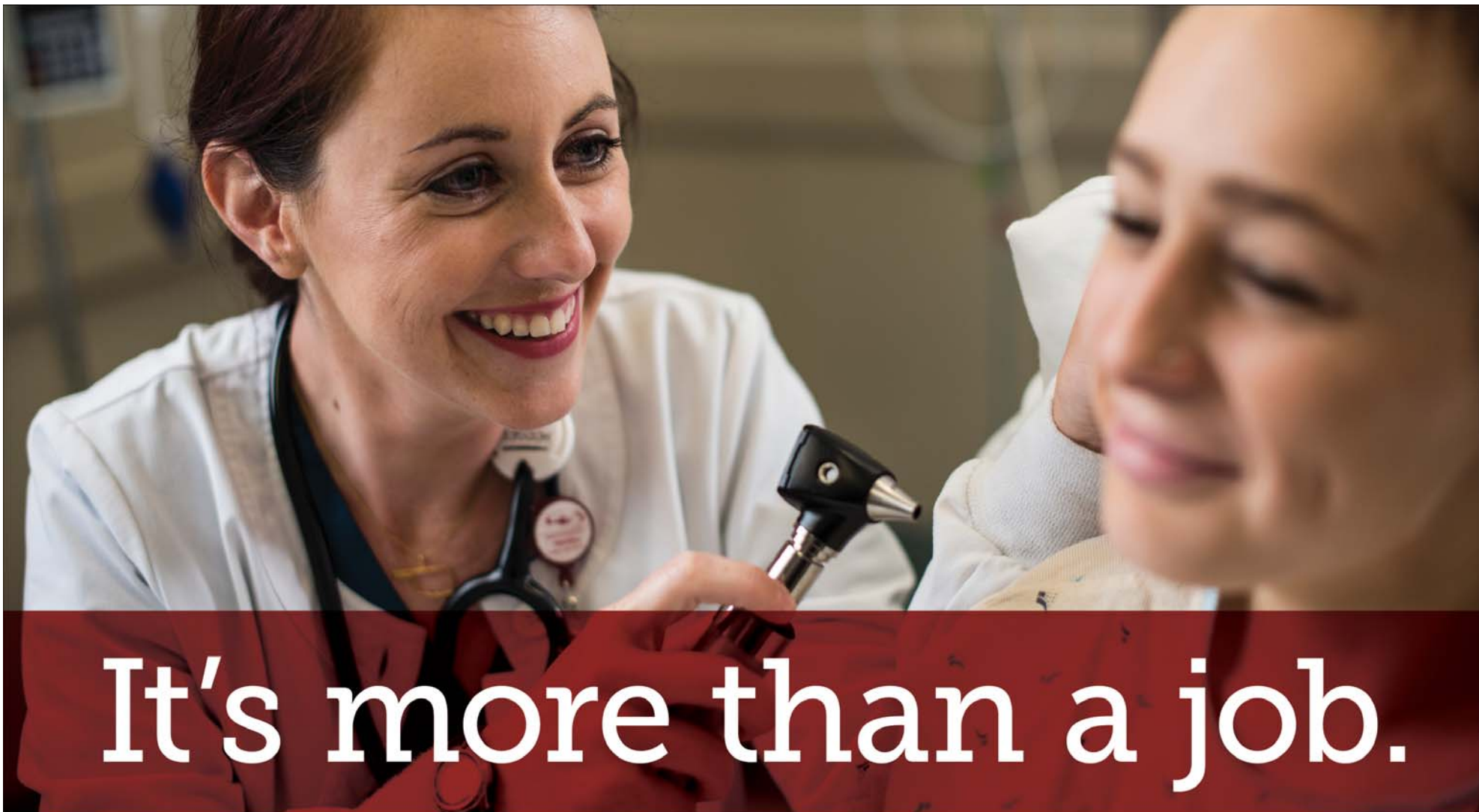
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(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2022 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)

# Rewarding and Compassionate Care at Karman Legacy Hospice



Nursing is considered one of the most noble and compassionate professions in the world. Those who choose nursing as a career have a strong desire to help others heal and return to normal life. But what about those patients who will not be returning to a normal life, and instead have received a terminal diagnosis? How can taking care of patients at the end of their life be rewarding? The staff of Karman Legacy Hospice in Stillwater answer the questions that many healthcare providers have about the challenges and rewards of providing hospice care.

Sherry Crockett, Director of Karman Legacy Hospice, has been a nurse for 32 years. When asked how she became a hospice nurse, she said, "I was a home health nurse working in quality assurance. A friend called me to discuss the idea of joining her to work at a local hospice agency. After being allowed to shadow my friend on a few patient visits, I was hooked."

Sherry said that while she has worked in many aspects of nursing over her career, she feels most fulfilled when she has the honor to provide her patients with the best quality of life in their final days.

"Being a hospice nurse is the greatest job," said Sherry. "Our patients give us more than we give them. I have a sense of purpose working with hospice patients and their families."

With nearly 20 years of hospice experience, Mary Vanzant, LPN, has found her passion serving as an urgent care/on call hospice nurse. She remembers that during her first year

of hospice nursing, she experienced a whirlwind of feelings and emotions.

"You realize you are only here for a short time, and not invincible," she said. "It will humble you to see the importance of living life everyday as though it was your last, enjoying the little things and how precious time is."

Kristie Talley, RN, has been part of the hospice family at Karman Legacy for just over 5 years. She was first introduced to the hospice process after her grandmother was diagnosed with cancer and there were no longer any paths for active treatment. Kristie had heard of hospice but was not sure what all it entailed. She said she quickly realized that hospice is not where patients just go to die, but where they go to live.

"Let me clarify that my grandmother did die, but hospice helped her live out the remainder of her time on earth the way she wanted to, on her terms, with dignity and respect, with little to no pain, and surrounded by loved ones and not machines," said Kristie.

Tiffany Myers, LPN, has worked as a hospice nurse for 2.5 years. She was first introduced to hospice when her grandfather was a hospice patient.

"I saw the love, care and exceptional compassion that went into keeping him comfortable, and my family was part of the nurse's concern as well," said Tiffany. "I wanted to be a part of that most important time in a person's life."

Tiffany said that she loves her job, and she is proud of the end of life

care she is able to provide for her patients and their family.

Danielle Vargas, RN, has been providing hospice care for about 6 months. Like a lot of other hospice nurses, she was introduced to hospice care when a family member was receiving care.

"I had an uncle that was sick with cancer that was receiving hospice services," she said. "Something just clicked during that experience for me, and I felt drawn to it."

She said that after a difficult day at work, she refills her bucket by spending time with her family. "I have two little girls that are absolute blessings."

Angela Garcia, RN, has been a hospice nurse for just 2 months after

previously working as a CNA. She advises anyone considering hospice to make sure you are doing it for the right reasons.

"You have to be open-minded to everyone's beliefs and center your care around what is best for each individual," said Angela.

She continued to say that hospice team members are special people with the ability to spread love and comfort to those most in need.

"There's no better reward or feeling in the world like being able to fulfill someone's dying wishes and letting their loved ones see them die peacefully," she said.

For more information visit:

[www.stillwater-medical.org/locations/karman-legacy-hospice](http://www.stillwater-medical.org/locations/karman-legacy-hospice)

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# Gen Z Nurses Report Struggles with Stress, Trauma and Workplace Violence

On Tuesday, the ANA American Nurses Foundation (the Foundation) released new survey findings from nearly 12,000 nurses nationwide, revealing that younger nurses are struggling more with mental health challenges and that nurses are experiencing an increase in workplace violence as the nation enters year three of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Mental Health and Workplace Violence

Nurses' mental health and well-being has been and remains a pressing issue, with the ongoing stressors of the pandemic taking a significant toll on younger nurses. Nearly half of nurses surveyed under age 35 said they have sought professional mental health support since March 2020. Of the survey respondents under age 25, 69% say they have been suffering from burnout, which is more than double than those older than 25 (30%).



Additionally, nurses under age 25 (47%) and nurses between 25- 34 (46%) consider themselves as being not or not at all emotionally healthy compared to nurses over the age of 55 (19%) and were more likely to have experienced an extremely traumatic, disturbing, or stressful event due to COVID-19. The number of workplace violence incidences against nurses are on the rise, according to the survey. Specifically, 2/3 of nurses surveyed said they have experienced increased bullying at work while 1/3 of nurses report increased incidents of physical violence at work.

"Mental health challenges endured by nurses is a serious ongoing dilemma that will have

long-term impacts on the profession as this younger generation of nurses have been hit the hardest, as noted in the survey. As we think about the future of nursing, this is particularly disturbing because nurses are our most valuable resource in health care, remaining a constant force in the recovery efforts to end this relentless pandemic by administering COVID-19 vaccines, educating communities, and providing safe and quality patient care to millions. The key to ending this pandemic is having and sustaining a robust nursing workforce operating at peak health and wellness," said Foundation Board of Trustees President, Wilhelmina M. Manzano, MA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN. "The Foundation continues to be committed to providing resources and the necessary support to all nurses through the Well-Being Initiative and the Coronavirus Response

Fund for Nurses. We need to ensure nurses are consistently and completely protected and supported. There is too much on the line."

## Lack of robust support systems feeds staffing crisis

Among respondents who say that their organization is experiencing a staffing shortage (89%), more than half (53%) say that it is a serious problem. Younger nurses are leaving their current positions and roles in increasing numbers. According to the survey findings, nurses ages 25-34 and 35-44 were more likely to change positions than nurses over age 55. Similarly, 60% of nurses under age 25 and 57% of nurses 25-34 do not believe their organization cares about their well-being and generally feel unsupported. The lack of support and work negatively affecting their mental health and well-being were

See REPORT next page

## Over 55, Unemployed & Looking for Work?



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The AARP Foundation Senior Community Service and Employment Program (SCSEP) can help you keep pace with the changing nature of work and improve your ability to find employment, even in today's tough job market. AARP Foundation SCSEP places older workers in a variety of community service activities at nonprofit and public facilities like day care and senior centers, schools and hospitals. As a participant, you can sharpen your job skills and earn income — all while giving back to your community.

If you're 55 or over and unemployed, contact AARP Foundation SCSEP's local office at 405.879.3899 for more information.

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**Oklahoma's Nursing Times**

# REPORT

Continued from Page 12

major contributing factors to this sentiment of younger nurses who were more likely to experience negative and unhealthy emotions.

"As we enter the third year of this incessant pandemic, the survey findings are even more alarming than what we found in the survey done last year. It's extremely disheartening that we are still seeing and hearing about the same issues nurses have been burdened with since the start of the pandemic in 2020," said Foundation Executive Director, Kate Judge. "Nurses are still struggling with mental health issues, feeling unsupported, and suffering from severe burnout and post-traumatic stress because of their sustained response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The nurse staffing shortage has had

a domino effect on the profession and it's only going to worsen if we don't address the chronic, underlying work environment issues. The Foundation continues to work tirelessly on behalf of the nation's nurses who deserve our full support and respect for their efforts in improving public health and pulling our nation out of the grip of this pandemic." Nurses cannot solve the longstanding challenges facing the profession alone. It is imperative that the Administration and all other stakeholders utilize all available authorities to address these issues and collaborate with nurses to forge a path forward to ensure a strong nursing workforce now and in the future.

*\*Data collected through a non-incentivized survey administered by the American Nurses Foundation. Between January 8 - January 29, 2022 - 11,964 nurses completed this survey. \**

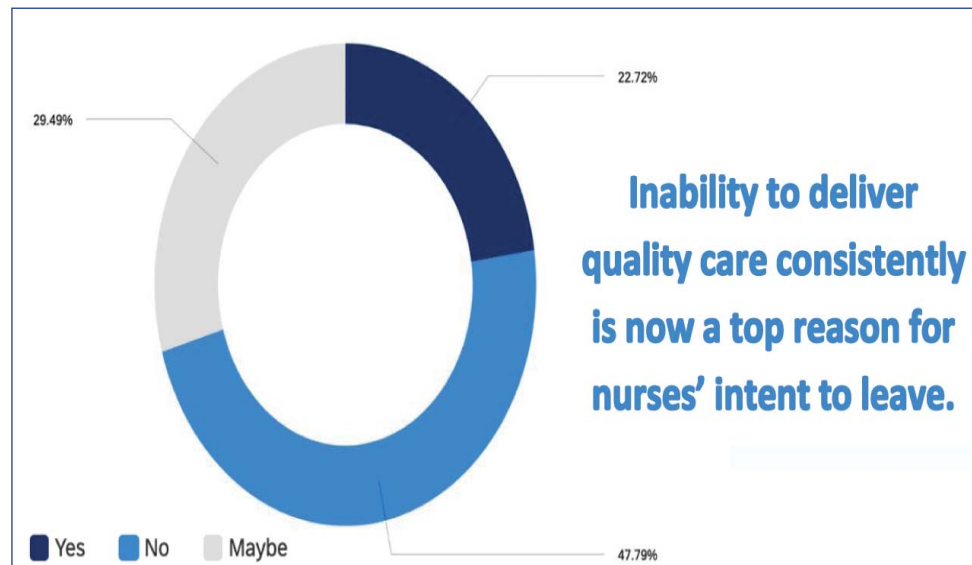


Figure 7 - Nurses indicate whether they intend to leave their position in the next six months, January 2022

**By age, the following intend to leave their position within the next 6 months:**

- 37% Under 25
- 31% 25-34
- 27% 35-44
- 21% 45-54
- 18% 55 or older

**By role, the following intend to leave their position within the next 6 months:**

- 37% Telemetry nurse
- 32% Intensive, critical care nurse
- 31% Acute care (hospital) nurse
- 29% Emergency department nurse
- 27% Medical-surgical nurse

DOWNLOAD THE FULL SURVEY RESULTS AND FINDINGS HERE:  
<https://dailynurse.com/ana-survey-gen-z-nurses-report-struggles-with-stress-trauma-and-workplace-violence/>

# Situation Update: COVID-19

<b>New Cases 7 Day Average</b>	<b>136'</b>
<b>New Cases Week of 2/27/22 - 3/5/22</b>	<b>955</b>
<b>Active Cases</b>	<b>2,335</b>
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>1,026,650<sup>^</sup></b>
<b>CDC/NCHS Provisional Deaths</b>	<b>15,053</b>

<sup>`</sup> This number represents the average daily number of new cases from last week. These cases had either a specimen collection date or symptom onset date between 2/27 and 3/5.

<sup>^</sup>Total Cases = previously reported cumulative cases (1,022,673) + new cases from the previous week based on event date (955) + older cases (3,022) that were delayed in being reported to OSDH. (Of the 3,022 delayed cases 136 were from the week of 2/20-2/26).

<b>Acute Care OSDH Licensed Facilities/Location**</b>	<b>Recent 3 day Ave. Hospitalizations</b>
	<b>Cases (ICU)</b>
Region 1 (NW)	8 (1)
Region 2 (NE)	9 (4)
Region 3 (SW)	42 (5)
Region 4 (EC)	19 (7)
Region 5 (SE)	7 (2)
Region 6 (Central)	27 (2)
Region 7 (Tulsa)	83 (29)
Region 8 (OKC)	148 (33)
<b>Total</b>	<b>343* (83)</b>
<b>Other Types of Facilities</b>	
Focus Facilities	7 (3)
Rehabilitation Facilities	4 (0)
Tribal Facilities	3 (1)
<b>Other Facilities Total</b>	<b>14 (4)</b>

Data Source: Acute Disease Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health. \*As of 2022-03-10 at 7:00 a.m.



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**In 2021, the United Way of Central Oklahoma and our more than 19,000 donors and 600 workplace campaigns selflessly contributed to the United Way Campaign. And to share the gift of a better life for thousands of Oklahomans.**

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| OGE Energy Corp.                           | MidFirst Bank            | The Chickasaw Nation  | Cox Communications    | St. Anthony Hospital   |
| Chesapeake Energy Corporation              | Bank of Oklahoma         | Ascent Resources      | UPS                   | COSTCO Wholesale       |
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