



**Press Release**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASEE**

**Media Contact**  
Stephen Kuehler | [stephen.kuehler@knoxhospital.org](mailto:stephen.kuehler@knoxhospital.org)  
940-657-3535

## **Importance of Rural Healthcare Highlighted**

*Rural healthcare is more important than ever.*

KNOX CITY, Texas (Nov. 12, 2021) – Knox County Hospital will join the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) and other state/national rural stakeholders in celebrating National Rural Health Day on Thursday, November 18, 2021

NOSORH founded National Rural Health Day as a way to showcase rural America; increase awareness of rural health-related challenges; and promote the efforts of NOSORH, State Offices of Rural Health and others in addressing those challenges. National Rural Health Day is an annual day of recognition which occurs on the third Thursday of November.

Access to healthcare is always important in rural areas, but in times of uncertainty, having medical care nearby is more critical than ever. In recognition of National Rural Health Day on Nov. 18, Knox County Hospital District is showing appreciation for the healthcare professionals who are working to protect their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Medical professions have been relied on more than ever, and we are extremely fortunate to have an excellent group of healthcare professionals here in Knox County,” says Stephen Kuehler, CEO of Knox County Hospital District. “National Rural Health Day is a chance to highlight the efforts of rural healthcare workers while reminding those in our community that the medical services they need and expect are available through Knox County Hospital District.”

National Rural Health Day is a celebration meant to draw attention to medical professionals and healthcare facilities in rural areas that are addressing the unique needs of their communities through innovation and compassionate care. Nearly 57 million Americans call rural communities’ home.

Over the past several years, dozens of rural hospitals have closed, leaving communities without convenient access to critical healthcare services. According to Kuehler, hospitals play critical roles in communities of all sizes, especially in those that are a long drive from hospitals in larger cities.

“Being able to have medical care available locally is critical to meeting the health care needs of our community,” Kuehler explains. “From wellness visits to emergency care, Knox County Hospital District is a critical asset for our community.”

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**Knox County Hospital District**  
701 SE 5th St. | Knox City, TX 79529 | 940-657-3535



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Kuehler adds that COVID-19 has led many people to delay important healthcare services, even when doing so can be risky.

“Now, more than ever, keeping up with your annual checkup, medications and wellness exams is important,” Kuehler adds. “Delaying much-needed medical care can put your health at serious risk.”

Regionally, Knox County Hospital District offers a wide range of healthcare services, including 24-hour emergency care; advanced radiology services; a clinical laboratory; two clinics, home health, long-term care, patient education, physical therapy; and more.

In addition to providing important healthcare services and wellness resources, the local healthcare system plays an important role in the local economy. The hospital employs many Knox County residents, providing jobs for nurses, technicians, administrative staff, and more.

“Families in Knox County can take comfort knowing that we have taken steps to prioritize your health in a safe and friendly environment.” Kuehler says. “While there has been uncertainty the past couple of years, our community can rest assured that you can count on Knox County Hospital District to provide the medical services you expect from your local healthcare provider,”

To learn more about medical services available in Knox County, please visit [www.knoxhospital.org](http://www.knoxhospital.org).

### **About Knox County Hospital District**

Founded in 1926, Knox County Hospital District provides healthcare for residents of Knox County and surrounding areas. The district offers a wealth of medical services, including 24-hour emergency care, advanced radiology services, a clinical laboratory, home health, physical therapy, long-term care, patient education, and more. For additional information, please call 940-657-3535 or visit [www.knoxhospital.org](http://www.knoxhospital.org).

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