



Press Release
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KCHD Recognizes the Importance of Healthcare in our Community

Celebrates National Hospital and National Skilled Nursing Care Weeks - May 7-20 2023

KNOX CITY, Texas (May 5, 2023) – In recognition of the importance of hospitals and skilled nursing facilities in our area, Knox County Hospital District is celebrating National Hospital and National Skilled Nursing Care Weeks (May 7-20). The opportunity to recognize local healthcare service providers and staff, who support the wellbeing of their neighbors and residents, is a great reminder to demonstrate the vital role they play in our community.

“As communities across Texas and all around the United States face cuts to healthcare programs and services, we are proud to have a thriving hospital that provides essential healthcare for residents of Knox County,” says Stephen Kuehler, CEO of Knox County Hospital District. “For nearly a century, we have had the privilege to serve our neighbors, constantly looking to the future and growing to meet the needs of our dynamic community.”

During Hospital Week, the National Hospital Association seeks to raise awareness of the important work hospital workers in our state perform. The value of the work they do does not end when Covid-19 or any other critical health crisis ends. “We will always continue to rely on a strong, professional and committed team of hospital workers,” noted Kuehler.

“National Skilled Nursing Care Week, formerly known as National Nursing Home Week, was established in 1967 by the American Health Care Association, recognizes the essential role of skilled nursing care centers in caring for the elderly, frail, and disabled, said Munday Nursing Center Administrator, Kelsey Simmons. NSNCW has been held annually since 1967 and always begins on Mother’s Day, Munday Nursing Center strives to make their residents feel valued and consider it a privilege to care for family’s loved ones during their last chapter as well as work as a rehab team to rehabilitate a patient recovering from surgery or a recent hospitalization. Simmons went on to say how grateful she is for her dedicated staff and “what an honor it is to care for our community’s loved ones.”

The national observance to celebrate the work of hospital staff began in 1921, started by a magazine editor who wanted to educate the public about the work hospitals do to care for the sick. This was shortly after the Spanish flu pandemic that plagued the nation in 1918. Since its founding, National Hospital Week has become one of the nation’s largest healthcare celebrations.

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Kuehler made note of the fact that local hospital provides critical healthcare services that residents would otherwise have to travel long distances to find. At a time when 21 hospitals in Texas have closed, and countless others have had to decrease services, KCHD has continued its resilience and commitment to delivering important healthcare to the community through its hospital services, clinics, pharmacy, home health, Seymour Medical Supply and the Munday Nursing Center.

Kuehler adds that KCHD is also a significant contributor to the local economy. He says that the Hospital District employs over 150 individuals from its various facilities, making KCHD one of the largest employers in the county, while providing important services to protect the health and safety of the community.

KCHD offers a large number of medical services, including 24-hour emergency care; radiology services; a clinical laboratory; physical therapy; a swing bed program for recovery near home, two family health clinics, long term nursing home care and more.

“Whether in response to a medical emergency, routine healthcare needs and support, or long-term care, our patients can count on us to help in improving their wellbeing,” Kuehler stated. “As we move into the future, we will continue to work towards providing the critical healthcare services our community expects.”

"During National Hospital and Skilled Nursing Week we are grateful for our healthcare team, along with the many years of support from our community, Kuehler noted. “Access to local healthcare is critical for every community, and we are lucky to have an amazing team helping us care for each other.”

To learn more about local healthcare programs at services in Knox County, please visit 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.

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Knox County Hospital District

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