



Press Release
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Hospital District honors healthcare heroes during National Hospital and Skilled Nursing Care Week, May 11–17, 2025

A Symphony of Compassionate Care in Knox County

KNOX CITY, Texas (May 9, 2025) — This May, Knox County Hospital District (KCHD) will proudly join the nationwide celebration of National Hospital Week and National Skilled Nursing Care Week, observed May 11–17, 2025. The 2025 theme— “America’s Hospitals: A Symphony of Compassionate Care”— serves as a powerful reminder that healthcare is not a solo act. It’s a complex, collaborative effort that depends on the talents and compassion of many.

In Knox County, where local healthcare is a lifeline for thousands of residents, the theme resonates deeply. The week offers a meaningful opportunity to pause, reflect, and recognize the dedicated individuals who form the backbone of local care—from the emergency department and patient rooms to the patient transport team, billing staff, pharmacy, medical equipment, home health and long-term care.

“Healthcare is a living, breathing system of people working together, and every person in that system plays a critical part,” said Stephen Kuehler, Chief Executive Officer of KCHD. “This week isn’t just a pat on the back—it’s a full standing ovation for the dedication, professionalism, and heart that our team brings every day.”

While hospital closures have become an unfortunate trend across the country—especially in rural regions—Knox County continues to defy the odds. Roughly 30% of counties in Texas have no hospital at all, and 26 rural hospitals in the state have closed since 2010. Yet KCHD has not only endured—it has grown.

“Our success is a testament to the power of community and the people who choose to serve it,” Kuehler said. “Every time someone applies for a job here, chooses to stay here, or goes the extra mile for a patient, they’re helping keep local healthcare alive and strong.”

KCHD’s integrated network includes Knox County Hospital, Knox City Clinic, Munday Clinic, EMS services, pharmacy, home health, Seymour Medical Supply and the Munday Nursing Center, a highly rated skilled nursing facility that has served the region for more than 50 years. Together, these programs form a complete circle of care for the community.

The district’s staff includes nurses, physicians, nurse practitioners, therapists, CNAs, medical assistants, laboratory and imaging technicians, maintenance crews, dietary, support staff and many others—over 150



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employees in total. These professionals don't just work in Knox County. They live here, shop here, raise families here, and care deeply about the people they serve.

"The care is personal because the community is personal," said Kuehler. "When we talk about compassionate care, we mean seeing your patient as a neighbor, a friend, or someone you've known your whole life."

This sense of connection is especially evident at Munday Nursing Center, where residents receive 24/7 skilled nursing care in a warm, supportive environment. In addition to a five-star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the facility is known for its dedication to treating each resident like family.

"Skilled nursing isn't just about medications and monitoring—it's about relationships," Kuehler said. "Our staff helps with everything from meals and mobility to laughter and comfort. They bring humanity into healthcare, and that's something truly special."

National Skilled Nursing Care Week (NSNCW) was established in 1967 to honor exactly this kind of work—compassionate, skilled, and often behind the scenes. Taking place the same week as National Hospital Week, NSNCW offers a chance to spotlight those working in long-term care and to thank them for the emotional and physical labor they provide each day.

Together, these observances offer more than a celebration—they are a call to protect and invest in rural healthcare systems that are increasingly under pressure. Staffing shortages, reimbursement challenges, and aging infrastructure are all hurdles that KCHD continues to face with creativity, resilience, and a commitment to service.

"We're navigating the same headwinds as other hospitals across the country, but we're staying the course," said Kuehler. "We're still hiring, still expanding access, still investing to meet the healthcare needs of our community. We're still here—and that matters."

Looking ahead, KCHD remains focused on enhancing care through new partnerships, technologies, and community outreach efforts. Whether it's bringing in additional specialists, upgrading diagnostic equipment, or increasing preventative care outreach, the goal is the same: to offer quality, local care that residents can trust.

"This week, we're not just celebrating what we've done—we're celebrating who we are," Kuehler said. "We are neighbors helping neighbors, a true symphony of service and care. And we're proud to be here for every moment."



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To learn more about Knox County Hospital District's programs and services, 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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