



Press Release
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Media Contact
Stephen Kuehler | stephen.kuehler@knoxhospital.org

Knox County Hospital District Celebrates Nurses Week 2026

Honoring nurses across KCHD and Munday Nursing Center

KNOX CITY, Texas (April 24, 2026) – Knox County Hospital District is proud to recognize Nurses Week 2026, May 6–12, as a time to honor the skill, compassion, and commitment of nurses serving patients, residents, and families across the district, including those at Munday Nursing Center.

National Nurses Week is observed each year from May 6 through May 12, ending on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, who is widely recognized as the founder of modern nursing. Over time, the observance grew into a national tradition that recognizes the vital role nurses play in patient care and in the overall strength of the healthcare system. Today, it serves as an important reminder that nursing is not only one of the most trusted professions in the country, but also one of the most essential.

At Knox County Hospital District, Nurses Week is an opportunity to thank the nurses who serve in hospital, clinic, and long-term care settings. Their work is seen in both major moments and everyday interactions, from monitoring patients and providing treatments to answering questions, offering reassurance, and helping families better understand care plans.

In rural healthcare, nurses often serve in especially meaningful ways. They care for neighbors, friends, and familiar faces, bringing both clinical skill and personal connection to the work. In communities like Knox City and Munday, that matters. Patients and residents are not just names on a chart. They are often people nurses know from church, school events, local businesses, and years of community life. That connection can bring an added sense of trust and comfort to the care experience.

“During Nurses Week, we are proud to recognize the men and women who serve patients and families across Knox County Hospital District with exceptional professionalism and compassion,” said Stephen Kuehler, CEO. “Nurses are essential to the care we provide, and their dedication makes a real difference every day.”

Nursing also requires a unique balance of knowledge and compassion. Nurses must think critically, respond quickly, communicate clearly, and remain attentive to details that can have a direct impact on patient care. At the same time, they are often the people who help calm fears, explain what to expect, and provide reassurance during difficult moments. That combination of skill and compassion is part of what makes nursing such an important profession.

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The observance also includes the nursing team at Munday Nursing Center, where nurses provide daily care, oversight, and encouragement for residents who depend on both medical support and personal attention. In long-term care, nursing is about more than meeting clinical needs. It is about building relationships, preserving dignity, and helping residents feel secure, respected, and at home.

“At Munday Nursing Center, our nurses are part of the daily life of this home, said Kelsey Simmons, Administrator at Munday Nursing Center. “They care for residents with skill and compassion, but they also bring patience, kindness, and consistency that mean so much to residents and families. The relationships they build here are one of the things that make their work so meaningful.”

That long-term care setting calls for a special kind of commitment. Nurses in a nursing center are often supporting residents through ongoing health needs while also becoming familiar, trusted faces in their daily routines. Families depend on that steady presence. Residents depend on that consistency. It is work that requires clinical ability, emotional strength, and a genuine concern for the well-being of others.

By recognizing both KCHD nurses and the team at Munday Nursing Center, the district is celebrating the full reach of nursing across its local healthcare services. Whether helping a patient recover, managing a chronic condition, supporting rehabilitation, coordinating care, or caring for a resident over time, nurses remain central to quality care close to home.

Nurses Week also provides a moment to reflect on the profession’s history and on the continuing importance of nursing in communities of all sizes. Nursing has changed over the years as medicine, technology, and patient needs have evolved, but the heart of the profession has remained remarkably consistent. Nurses continue to be caregivers, educators, advocates, and steady sources of support for the people they serve.

For Knox County Hospital District, this recognition is also about gratitude. It is about acknowledging the long hours, careful attention, and personal investment nurses bring to their work throughout the year. It is about recognizing the many ways they strengthen the district’s mission and help deliver dependable care locally.

“We are grateful not only for what our nurses do, but for how they do it,” Kuehler said. “They bring professionalism, heart, and steady commitment to the people we serve, and that deserves to be recognized and appreciated.”

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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.

Knox County Hospital District

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