



PULSE

January 29, 2015
VOL. 26 NO. 1

NEWS OF INTEREST TO RPMH EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



David Richards, is our January Employee of the Month. David was hired as an RN in our Emergency Department in December 2011. He was nominated by a co-worker that said, "David recently organized the first Rolling Wheels bike ride hosted by RPMH on October 25. He presented the idea, found a route gathered all the riders and sponsors and presented all proceeds to the American Cancer Society." David was a 2007 graduate of Tascosa High School in Amarillo. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing as a 2011 graduate of McMurry University and the Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing in Abilene. David spent 4 years on the McMurry University Swim team. He received numerous awards swimming and still managed to earn a place on the Dean's List. David's co-workers believe that he has shown leadership and proven himself to be a great asset to RPMH and to Sweetwater. Congratulations David!

SPECIAL DAYS



February 6-	Wear Red Day for Heart Month
February 8-14-	National Cardiac Rehab Week
February 10-	Jaci Callan on KXOX Talk Show 8am
February 16-	Scrub Show
February 20-21-	24 Hour Treadmill Walkathon

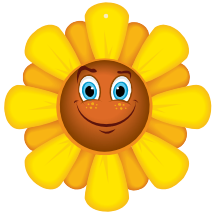
NEW EMPLOYEES



WELCOME!!!

Emergency Room: Jebby Forbes
Environmental Services: Marcus Rosas
Cardiopulmonary Services: Justine Benz
Laboratory: Kirsten Willman
Med/Surg: Danyel Culwell, Loran Hendrix, April Long, Penny Jones
OB: Gina Cowen
Volunteers: Jacque McCoy
OR: Sue White, LVN

SPECIAL MENTIONS

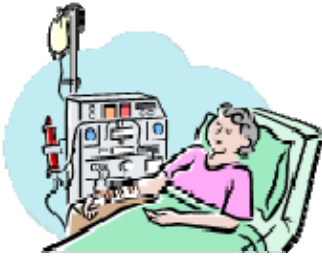


Arnettia Saddler
Carmen Reed
Dr. Kastl
Jerry Hulme
Kim Watson
Misty Brogan
Roman Reyes
Wendy Figueroa

Bonnie White
David Figueroa
Dr. Liedtke
Karen Romero
Kristi Presley
Nidia Barragan
Rosa Galvan

Candace Alford
Dr. Bueso
Dr. McEachern
Kelly Hester
Kristie Gragg
Renee Gaskin
Sean Jacques

PATIENT OPINION POLL



"Tasha Soto in ER was very kind and caring. Jerry Hulme in ICU was excellent."

"My experience here was very relaxing. Everyone is so nice and friendly and courteous."

"Carmen Reed in Cardiopulmonary was absolutely amazing! She had a smile on her face every time she walked through the door."

"To all the people who treated and cared for me during my stay. You all were and are great!"

"Many thanks to Dr. Liedtke, Roman Reyes, Candace Alford, Rosa Cooper and Sean Jacques for their excellent care. Everyone here all worked together to make a great team. I was in a dire need when I came in and they all made me feel important and worked for my health. All wonderful staff! Not one bad experience!"

TeamSTEPPS – PARTNERING WITH THE PATIENT

Embrace your patient as a valuable and contributing partner in patient care!
The patient is the reason we are here.



- Learn to listen to patients and family members
- Ask patients about their concerns
- Speak to them in a way that they can understand
- Ask for their feedback
- If you say you are going to do something – follow through
- Give them information about what is going on with their care
- Encourage the patient and their family to be active partners in their care

Sam the TeamSTEPPS mascot hung out with the OB staff over the holidays and helped welcome the New Year's Baby! Where will his TeamSTEPPS Sam's journey be next? Be on the look out for Sam to visit your department.

HENRIETTA



THE HIPAA HIPPO

ABOUT CURIOSITY

An employee should only access a patient's protected health information to do his/her job and/or take care of the patient. Unfortunately, on occasion, an employee will access a patient record out of curiosity or concern for the patient. This type of access is against the law, unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital. The hospital and its employees have a legal, ethical and moral responsibility to protect the patient's protected health information from any and all unauthorized access.

Accessing a patient's medical record due to curiosity or concern for the patient will result in an intense investigation by the hospital leadership. According to HIPAA and HITECH regulations, the hospital must sanction any employee who violates patient privacy. Those sanctions vary depending on level of violation and intent – anything from a written warning, re-training, loss of access to the EHR, probation, suspension, termination, legal action and reporting to licensing agencies. So, this type of violation can ruin your career. In addition, the employee can be fined and imprisoned by State and Federal authorities.

Some examples of HIPAA violations due to curiosity or concern:

Accessing information of a relative, friend, neighbor, co-worker, or public figure. This also prohibits accessing your own medical record or test results except through the patient portal.

Accessing information on a patient because you think that patient may be admitted to your unit or receive the services of your unit—remember he is not your patient if he is being evaluated for services in another department.

Reviewing the census out of curiosity to see if you know anyone who is in the hospital.

It is your responsibility to maintain the privacy of the patient's protected health information. So, ask yourself before you access protected health information -- Do I need this information to do my job or to care for the patient? If the answer is no, do not access the information.

