

Highlights

Updates for Lucas County Health Center Employees



Olga Vorobets Named Employee of the Quarter

For going “above& beyond” in the best interest of Lucas County Health Center, Olga Vorobets became the most recent recipient of the Employee of the Quarter Award.

Vorobets was recognized for her extremely positive attitude, being an ideal team player, and for helping with extra projects that benefit LCHC patients, including translating.

Congratulations on a job well done, Olga!

HIPAA Reminder

If you have any questions or concerns regarding HIPAA, contact the following people:

- HIPAA Privacy Officer - Terri McCurdy
- HIPAA Security Officer - Lori Johnson
- Anonymous Compliance Hotline - (641) 774-3290

Kudos!

Thank you for all you do! We pray for everyone's health, enduring compassion, and unwavering commitment to our community! God bless you all!

Cornerstone Community Church

Elevator

The elevator will be down for maintenance beginning Monday, January 11th and is expected to be down for 2 weeks.

For more information, find the email from Lori Johnson sent on December 30th.

Questions? Contact Calvin at x3228.



Administration Update

We have all waited anxiously for 2020 to end and 2021 to come running to the rescue. It is true that 2020 was an unprecedented time on a worldwide basis. While there have been pandemics before, none seemed to have the far-reaching impacts on our economy, health care system, schools, communities and individual family structures. While the challenges were many, we have been able to look back on some major accomplishments and take a good look at the future with hope and excitement.

LCHC welcomed new general surgeon Dr. Mike Thompson in May 2020 and Podiatrist Dr. Eric Muhm began his practice in December 2019. Major equipment upgrades such as a new CT Scanner, medication administration system and an ambulance were purchased. In general, we pushed through the challenges of 2020 with limited long term impacts. That is something to be proud of in this current environment.

The new year will bring some additional equipment upgrades. There will be an evaluation of the facilities with an emphasis on future needs. Health care will continue to change and evolve, with long term changes related to the pandemic, continually changing treatment options, population changes and individual consumer needs. Health care is never boring and as a community leader it is our responsibility to prepare for those changes based on good research and listening to our patients. At LCHC, we realize that health care is a service business and we continue to seek opportunities to improve how we provide those services.

I am proud of our successful 2020 and look forward to 2021 with anticipation. We have a great team that consistently seeks opportunities to meet additional community needs. I have no doubt that 2021 will be even better. Happy New Year!

Service Focus: Telehealth/Virtual Care

We are proud to offer telehealth appointments to safely connect our community with our providers.

Telehealth appointments (also known as virtual care) offer patients a convenient and safe way to make and keep appointments without having to physically go to the clinic. It is great for minor health conditions and provides access to many of the same services you receive during an in-person appointment, including symptom monitoring, diagnosis and treatment, prescriptions, and other medical services.

By offering both telephone/telehealth appointments and standard appointments, patients can choose the option that best fits their lifestyle and schedule.



Some examples of conditions for virtual appointments are: allergies, colds, coughs, and follow-up visits.

Learn more about Telehealth at www.lchcia.com

Happy Cart

A-Team has created a "Happy Cart" for our employees!

The Happy Cart is available to all LCHC staff, especially those who are feeling stressed, burned out, or overwhelmed.

The Happy Cart is available to all shifts, every day and will be located in the kitchenette connected to the Education Room. There are many different items such as chocolates, chips, lotion, hard candies, pens, crossword puzzles, etc. We'll try to keep it stocked and add more items as we go!

You must use hand sanitizer before picking your item and we ask that you only take one item so that others will be able to enjoy the Happy Cart too!

Donations have been provided by A-Team, LCHC volunteers, and various community members.

If you would like to make a donation to the Happy Cart, items can be left in Kristine Kennedy's office or at the Front Desk. Please make sure you put a note that the items are for the Happy Cart!

A-Team Update

Winterfest 2022 Goal: \$6,500

Funds Raised: \$4,080

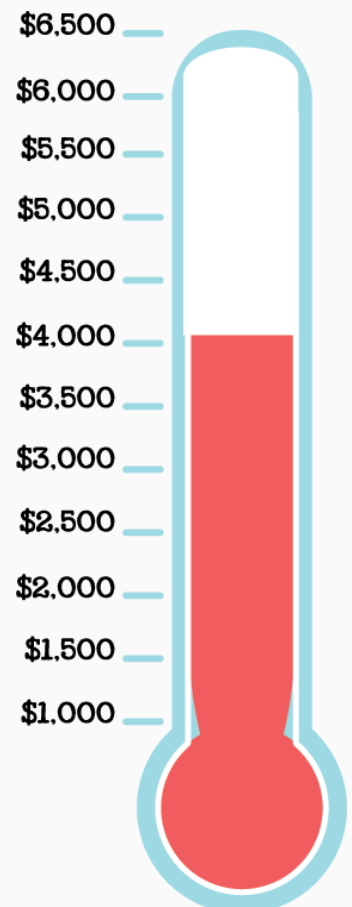
Left To Raise: \$2,420

Upcoming fundraisers:

- February - Valentines (It's sweet to work with you!)
- March - March Madness Contest!

**"Wherever
the art of
medicine is
loved, there
is also a
love of
humanity."**

HIPPOCRATES





THINGS TO KNOW:

The deadline to sign up is Thursday, January 21st.

Employees with email are asked to sign up via the link sent out by Jena Wiley. Employees without email should receive an RSVP card from their supervisor.

When you sign up, you should ONLY sign up for the number of people who LIVE in your home. If you would like to purchase extra meals (for visitors, etc.), you can do so. They are \$15 each and must be paid for with cash or check. (No payroll deduct.)

Appreciation Meal

Due to COVID, we can't hold our annual "Winterfest" employee appreciation event. However, we still want to recognize you for your efforts throughout the year and thank you for everything you have done!

Therefore, we will be doing a "drive-thru" meal at Carpenter's Hall for our employees and their families! The menu will consist of fried chicken, ham, party potatoes, green beans, pasta salad, and a dessert - and we will be providing enough for entire family!

The meal will be available for pickup from 4:30 to 6:30 PM on Saturday, January 30th at Carpenter's Hall. Employees or a member of their family can pick up their food. Employees who are working have the option to have their food delivered to the hospital OR have a family member pick it up.

COVID Information

General Updates:

Remember, Jena Wiley sends out a weekly COVID-19 update following the Incident Command meeting on Wednesdays.

If you have questions or concerns that need addressed at that meeting, contact Jayma Hoch and she will get it on the agenda.

We do our best to ensure that the weekly updates are short so please make sure you read them!

Vaccine Updates:

Joyce Dyer is in charge of administering the COVID-19 vaccine to our staff members. She frequently sends out information about the vaccine and when it is available to certain groups.

If you have any questions about the vaccine, contact Joyce at x3220.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP

Lucas County Health Center's Volunteer Services department is now accepting applications for the 2021 scholarship.

The Volunteer Services program will award two scholarships in May. One will be given to a graduating high school senior from Chariton High School. The second scholarship will be awarded to an applicant continuing their education. Both scholarships are for individuals going into the health care profession and are \$500 each.

LCHC Volunteer Services is proud to award these scholarships each year.

Applications can be completed online at www.lchcia.com/volunteers. You can also pick up an application at LCHC's Front Desk, the Volunteer Services office, or at Chariton High School.

IHERF SCHOLARSHIP

The Iowa Hospital Association (IHA) is offering the Health Care Careers Scholarship program through its subsidiary, the Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation (IHERF). In 2020, the IHERF will award 60 scholarships of up to \$7,000 (\$3,500 per year for up to two years) and \$1,000 to the Emergency Medical Technology/Technician Certification Program.

The goal of the Health Care Careers Scholarship program is to fill Iowa health care positions that have a notable number of openings by offering significant financial support to students seeking healthcare education/training.

In exchange, each \$3,500 award recipient must commit to working one year in an Iowa hospital for each year of the scholarship award. The \$1,000 award recipient must commit to working one year with a hospital-based or hospital-contracted emergency medical service. IHERF will identify placement opportunities in each IHA geographic district (a district map is included with the application).

For more information, please contact Clara Stults at stultsc@ihaonline.org or 515-288-1955.



WHEELCHAIRS

You may have noticed that many, if not all of LCHC's wheelchairs, have a new accessory!

These accessories help you determine where a chair should be returned.

Yellow poles - hospital front desk

Red poles - clinic

IV poles - emergency department

Please remember your wheelchair etiquette!

- When you use a wheelchair for a patient, make sure you return the wheelchair to it's proper location. We want to provide excellent customer service to each and every patient! One of the easiest ways we can do that is to have wheelchairs clean and ready when our patients need them.
- Make sure you clean wheelchairs before and after each use. This is always important, but more so now!
- If you need to remove the wheelchair feet for a patient, make sure you remember to put the feet back on the chair after you use it.



Compliance Reminder

We know COVID has created a lot of new rules and regulations, but the one thing that has not changed is our requirement to protect patient privacy.

We want to remind everyone that there is a line for our staff between their role as a patient and their role as a staff member. When a member of our own staff is here receiving healthcare, they are a patient and deserve the same treatment as our other patients. Their privacy needs to be protected as well and staff should refrain from speaking about their Protected Health Information, including test results, COVID status, treatments, and more.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact:

- HIPAA Privacy Officer - Terri McCurdy
- HIPAA Security Officer - Lori Johnson
- Anonymous Compliance Hotline - (641) 774-3290

Dr. Buroker, Oncologist, Joins Team

Thomas Buroker, DO will join our team to provide Hematology and Oncology services at LCHC Medical Clinic effective January 21, 2021.

Dr. Buroker is with Mission Cancer + Blood and will see patients in the clinic on the third Thursday of each month.

Dr. Buroker will take over Dr. Molina's clinics. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Buroker or Dr. Morton, call the clinic at (641) 774-8103.



Goodbye Blue Forms, Hello SafetyZone!

LCHC has a new Quality event reporting system! It is goodbye to blue forms (event reporting and report of concern forms) as of January 1st. The new electronic forms will be able to be filled out by anyone at LCHC and then will be forwarded directly to the Manager of the department and to Quality.

The Healthcare SafetyZone system is an electronic cloud-based event management system that allows us to collect events, analyze data, facilitate internal communication, and manage follow-up for our risk, quality, and safety initiatives.

The system can be accessed via a shortcut icon (named Healthcare SafetyZone Portal) on any LCHC desktop. When you open the icon, you will see a large red tab in the center that says "Submit Event." This is where you will choose which form you need to fill out and submit.

If you are a manager you will need a password to fully use the system and review the events. Other employees can access the forms without a password.

All staff must attend training on this new system by January 15th. If you were unable to view a training in December, check your email for a 30-minute pre-recorded link. (Email sent from Twilla on December 24th.) Managers were sent a separate email on the same day for their 1-hour training.

This new tool will allow us to improve processes and track events for trends while also helping to promote, protect, and improve the safety and care of our patients and staff.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, contact Twilla Kruzic, Quality Manager, at x3117 or tkruzic@lchcia.com

JANUARY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Clinic Closed	2 Clinic resumes regular hours
3	4	5 Telemetry 9 AM - 3 PM Educ. Room Board Meeting 6:30 PM, BR	6	7	8 New Employee Training 8:30 AM Educ. Room	9
10	11	12	13 Blood Drive 2:30 - 7 PM Conf. Room A	14	15	16
17 Blood Drive 8 - 11 AM Conf. Room A	18	19	20 BLS 8 AM-12 PM First Aid 3:30-6 PM CPR 6-10 PM Educ. Room	21	22	23
24	25	26 PALS Renewal 9 AM - 5 PM Educ. Room Board Meeting 6:30 PM, BR	27	28	29	30 Drive-Thru Employee Meal 4:30 - 6:30 PM Carpenter's Hall *sign up required*

Birthdays

January 1 - Mary Burger
 January 2 - Deb Lindsey
 January 3 - Kelly Mundt
 January 7 - Katie Chamberlain
 January 9 - Diana Irving
 January 11 - Jennifer Conley
 January 11 - George Esper
 January 12 - JoBeth Lawless
 January 13 - Christine Buttell
 January 17 - Stephanie Bear
 January 17 - Sarah Peterson
 January 18 - Mim Kurimski
 January 22 - Sheri Shore
 January 25 - Becky Runnells
 January 30 - Samantha Patterson
 January 31 - Abby Hamilton

Anniversaries

29 Years:
 Amy McCurdy - January 13

26 Years:
 Mary Jo Fisher - January 30

21 Years:
 Shannon Page - January 3
 Dr. Gorski - January 21

13 Years:
 Jenny Newton - January 4
 Lori Johnson - January 21

11 Years:
 Shannon Holmes - January 29

9 Years:
 Erin Lang - January 9

6 Years:
 Steve Adams - January 8
 Sarah Carter - January 9
 Kayla Wallace - January 26

4 Years:
 Calvin Dyer - January 16

3 Years:
 Ann Lund - January 8
 Kelsey Spicer - January 22
 Jessica Wiederholt - January 30

2 Years:
 Nick Howell - January 28

1 Year:
 Ella Kopytko - January 6
 Angie Blankenship - Jan. 7
 Ryan VanDonsler - Jan. 9
 Molly Knaus - January 27