Baylor Scott & White Health news

- Baylor Scott & White Health opening Austin-area primary care clinics, offering app-based care delivery downtown

In January 2017, Baylor Scott & White Health announced new clinics in downtown Austin and in Austin off of North Burnet Road; in November 2016, a clinic was also opened in Southwest Austin.

Baylor Scott & White Clinic—Austin Downtown will introduce a series of tech-driven initiatives never before offered at Baylor Scott & White. Enhancements include an innovative patient check-in via tablet, interactive room displays to track health progress, Bluetooth wireless technology to transfer vitals as they are taken, text appointment reminders, and more. Remote services include allowing patients the ability to begin the check-in process prior to arrival, to consult remotely with nurse staff, and to utilize Pager—an interactive, on-demand health care app for use on Apple or Android phones and tablets.

“Each patient has the power to control their own health path; we’re simply a guide along the way,” said Nick Reddy, chief digital officer, Baylor Scott & White. “Typically in a doctor visit, you don’t have direct visibility to your health records at your appointment. Now, with the exam room display we are piloting at the downtown clinic, patients will be able to see trends and track progress over time. At this clinic, patients will have a unique opportunity to see first-hand what we might eventually roll out to more clinics across the state. It will serve as our testing ground for new, tech-driven processes that will aim to improve both the patient and caregiver experience.”

- New family medicine and internal medicine residency programs to begin at Baylor Scott & White—Round Rock

A dozen new internal medicine and family medicine residents will join the team at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center—Round Rock and three of its local clinics in July 2017. These residents will work under the supervision of Baylor Scott & White physicians, with the internal medicine program directed by Suneel Vallabhaneni, MD, and the family practice program directed by Patricia Lopez-Gutierrez, MD. These medical school graduates will help meet the primary care needs of the community and ultimately may help alleviate the shortage of primary care physicians in Central Texas should they choose to stay after their training.

A recent Travis County community health needs assessment identified a lack of community-based and preventive care services, as well as a shortage of providers and safety net clinics. A continuous increase in local Baylor Scott & White patient volume and the success of graduate medical education programs in Temple further supported the creation of these two residency programs. Dr. Vallabhaneni anticipates that 30% to 35% of the residents will practice locally.

Graduate medical education at Baylor Scott & White’s Central Texas division is affiliated with Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine and has a longstanding history of success, with 21 residency programs and 24 fellowship programs. It is one of the largest GME programs in the country.

- Baylor Scott & White Health, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and City of Dallas join efforts to combat diabetes

A community-based pilot program offered at three Dallas recreation centers promotes healthy behaviors among those who may be at risk for diabetes and other chronic illnesses. Baylor Scott & White Health, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, and the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department are collaborating on the Healthy Cities initiative. The 10-week program led by community health workers includes ongoing follow up with participants.

Healthy Cities, provided at no charge, is offered at the Anita N. Martinez Recreation Center, Cummings Recreation Center, and Samuell-Grand Recreation Center. The program builds on the accomplishments of the Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center at Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center, which opened in 2010 and has seen success with diabetes and healthy behaviors education for southern Dallas residents.

The program’s first 6 weeks teach participants about making healthy lifestyle choices. The remaining 4 weeks focus on the cooking and nutrition aspects of healthy living. Additional highlights of the program include on-site farm stands with fresh produce (open to the public); collaboration with the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department to offer recreation and physical activity programs; and text reminders to participants with healthy lifestyle tips, tools, and resources.

Following the completion of the current programs, new 10-week programs will launch quarterly at each of the three locations. The program will be delivered in English or Spanish based on the needs of the community and audience.

- Baylor Scott & White Health increasing health and wellness options with new medical center in Pflugerville

Baylor Scott & White Health leaders joined Pflugerville city officials on February 8, 2017, to celebrate the start of construction on a new medical center set to open in 2018. In addition

UPCOMING CME PROGRAMS

The A. Webb Roberts Center for Continuing Education of Baylor Scott & White Health is offering the following programs:

Complex Care: Treatment Trends and Improved Outcomes, April 8, 2017, at Baylor Sammons Cancer Center, Dallas, Texas
Management of IBD—State of the Art, April 22, 2017, at Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas
Family Medicine Review, April 12–15, 2017, at Doubletree Hotel, Austin, Texas
Everett R. Veirs Lecture and Ophthalmology Conference, May 19, 2017, at Schoepf’s Bar-B-Que in Belton, Texas

For more information, visit http://cmebaylor.org/conferences.
to offering the quality medical care available at centers throughout the health system, the medical center in Pflugerville will have a greater focus on activities and programs designed to highlight healthy living habits.

“After more than a decade serving this community, we are renewing our commitment and expanding our services in Pflugerville,” said Jay Fox, president, Baylor Scott & White Austin/ Round Rock Region. “We are always looking for ways to advance our mission of creating a healthier population in Texas by serving more people and communities. We take a team approach to caring for every patient so they get the highest quality care possible.”

The new medical center is designed to grow as the population of Pflugerville continues to increase. It will include a hospital and an integrated multispecialty medical clinic, a unique model of care delivery that allows for greater coordination among hospital and clinic medical team members where health care providers can work on the same patients in tandem. Coupled with an electronic medical record used across the care continuum, this model helps improve the patient experience and prevent unnecessary medical tests, while aiming to reduce the amount of time a patient spends in the hospital.

- **Dallas colorectal surgeon’s research named in 2016 top clinical cancer advances**
  One of 2016’s major achievements in clinical cancer research and care was a study led by James Fleshman, MD, chief of surgery at Baylor University Medical Center, according to the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Fleshman’s research was selected for inclusion in *Clinical Cancer Advances 2017*, the society’s annual review of progress against cancer and emerging trends in the field. The study, originally published in *JAMA,*, found that laparoscopic surgery for stage II and stage III rectal cancer patients may not be a superior option to open surgery.

  “I’m honored that our work was considered among the major advances in cancer research last year,” Dr. Fleshman said. “We’re pleased to contribute to ongoing trials that will help give cancer patients the best possible outcome and chance for survival.”
PHILANTHROPY NOTES

Lee Jarmon Alzheimer’s Pro Am Golf Tournament benefits Baylor AT&T Memory Center

This fall, Rowland K. Robinson, president of Baylor Health Care System Foundation, gratefully received a check for $145,000 in support of the Baylor AT&T Memory Center. The check represented proceeds from the Lee Jarmon Alzheimer’s Pro Am Golf Tournament at Gleneagles Country Club, chaired by Steve Folsom and Matt Bryan.

Baylor Scott & White Health serves a population of more than 9.3 million Texans in North and Central Texas. As this population ages, health care providers are challenged to provide medical support for patients afflicted with dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

In 2013, philanthropic support launched the Baylor AT&T Memory Center, an innovative model of care that provides important, enhanced capabilities and resources to diagnose, treat, and provide social, emotional, and spiritual support for patients afflicted with Alzheimer’s and dementia and their families.

Gifts from Meadows Foundation and Colonnetta family have tails wagging

On the anniversary of its first year in operation, the Canine Companions for Independence® Baylor Scott & White Health—Kinkeade Campus received two generous gifts that will help pair trained assistance dogs with people with disabilities. Joe and Kimberly Colonnetta recently gave $100,000, and the Meadows Foundation, which has a special interest in both companion animals and programs serving the disabled, gave $150,000 in support of Canine Companions. After attending a Baylor Health Care System Foundation board meeting where they learned about the program, Kimberly Colonnetta and her husband were inspired to provide support. The Colonnettas also decided to train a puppy for the program, a yellow Labrador named Atlas.

Baylor Scott & White Health affiliated with Canine Companions in 2014. The 9-acre campus opened in November 2015 and includes dormitory rooms, kennels, indoor and outdoor training areas, and multipurpose spaces. It also has areas for grooming, food preparation, and a veterinary clinic and lab. The average cost to train and provide follow-up services for one assistance dog is more than $50,000. The dogs are provided free of charge to people with physical or developmental disabilities, so this philanthropic support is important.

Each participant completes a 2-week course at the campus—designed to match the person and the dog and to prepare them to work together while becoming responsible for the care, feeding, housing, and medical needs of the dog. We continue to raise funds to develop and support the Kinkeade Campus.

For information on how you can support these or other initiatives at Baylor Scott & White Health—North Texas, please contact Baylor Health Care System Foundation at 214.820.3136.