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Recognizing our Patients »

Support Hunter Health's Mission

Did you know that you can support Hunter Health's mission right on our website?

Go to [HunterHealth.org/donate](https://hunterhealth.org/donate) or **scan the QR code** to find out how you can support our mission of improving the health and wellbeing of everyone, and make a difference in your community.



Follow us. We're excited to share we recently launched our new TikTok and Instagram pages! These pages are a great way for us to connect with our community and share more about the work we do at Hunter Health. **3**

Stay Connected

@ HOME, @ WORK, @ YOUR FINGERTIPS



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NEW!



TikTok@HunterHealthClinic



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National Patient Recognition Week

was an opportunity for us to reflect on the importance of our patients and the impact they have on our lives and our work. At Hunter Health, we are committed to providing the highest quality care to our patients, and we believe that our patients are at the center of everything we do.

“At Hunter Health, we are deeply grateful to our patients who entrust us with their care. Without them, our clinic wouldn't be where it is today. We strive to show our appreciation every day and are honored by their continued trust in us.” – Dr. Caitlin Chiles,

Director of Primary Care



“We take pride in caring for patients from all backgrounds. Each individual has a unique story and we strive to connect with them, understand their needs, and provide personalized dental care. Our patients have made Hunter Health what it is today, and I can't wait to see where the next 10 years will take us!”

– Dr. Valerie Hunter, *Dental Director*

“I feel honored to serve patients in our community who otherwise wouldn't have access to quality healthcare. Our patients face many challenges such as poor health literacy, lack of insurance, homelessness, and limited access to preventative care. It is my privilege to provide access and resources to those who are in need, helping them improve their health and wellbeing.”

– Jon Vogt, *Nurse Team Lead*



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Please visit our website at hunterhealth.org and check out everything it has to offer. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and working with you in the weeks ahead to make a difference in the community. **6**

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Recognizing our Patients

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“Our integrated care team is dedicated to providing comprehensive care to our patients, addressing both their mental and physical health needs. I am proud to be a part of this team, helping patients understand the importance of a holistic approach to their wellbeing.” — Ben Benson, Integrated Care Consultant

“At Hunter Health, we are dedicated to providing quality care to patients who are often neglected by the standard healthcare system. Whether it's through eye exams or specialty services, we take pride in giving access to those in need. It's truly fulfilling to make a difference in their lives and improve their overall health.” — Dr. Alan Wiggins, Optometrist

We are honored to serve our patients, and are grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in their lives, and in our community.

American Heart Month

February is American Heart Month, and it's a time to raise awareness about heart health and the importance of preventing heart disease. Heart disease is a leading cause of death worldwide, and that's why at Hunter Health we take heart health very seriously.

One of the key services we offer is partnering with **Hillary Carden**, a traveling sonographer who comes to our clinic once a week to perform a variety of ultrasounds including echocardiograms – an ultrasound of the heart. These tests are used to identify symptoms such as lower extremity swelling, shortness of breath, chest pain, and heart palpitations. This is a key asset for our patients who may not otherwise have access to this important diagnostic tool.

“Echocardiograms are a *great tool* for those in our community who maybe don't want to have to go wait a month at a hospital to go get an ultrasound done,” Hillary says. “I think it's just great to be able to check out your heart in a quick manner if something is going on so that you can get some intervention and help.”

We believe that by providing our patients with access to cutting-edge technology and expertise, we can help prevent heart disease, other related issues, and improve the health of our community. **We're here to help you take control of your heart health and provide you with the care you need to live a long and healthy life.**



Hillary Carden
Sonographer

Wear Red Day

Hunter Health participated in the **American Heart Association's Wear Red Day**, raising awareness about heart disease and the importance of taking care of our heart health. Our staff donned red clothing and shared information on how to lower the risk of heart disease through regular exercise, healthy diet, and not smoking. At Hunter Health, we provide comprehensive heart health services, including screenings, diagnostic tests, and educational classes to help our patients take control of their heart health. Let's continue to raise awareness about heart health and improve our own heart health throughout the year.



Provider Highlight



Meet **Natalya Weber, PA-C** at Hunter Health. Natalya grew up on a farm outside of Sheridan Lake, Colorado, where her love for science and medicine began. She says, "I was the 'animal lady' on the farm, always bandaging up any injured animals." However, it was a personal experience that led her to a calling in healthcare.

“Someone very close to me had breast cancer. I went to several appointments with them and saw the positive impact the providers had on her. I hope to make a difference in my patients’ lives the way those providers helped my loved one,” Natalya shares.

Natalya earned her master’s in physician assistant degree from WSU and began her career in a long-term care home, later moving to

a dementia unit. In 2019, she joined the team at Hunter Health, drawn to the clinic's mission of helping every patient in need, no matter what.

“Hunter Health is the best place to go for your care. We help every patient in need. It doesn't matter if you are homeless, have no money for your prescriptions, or just need family medicine.” Said Natalya.

Natalya works in our same-day care clinic, seeing a wide range of patients from those with minor injuries to those with moderate diabetes management needs.

“Our clinic is unique because it's not an urgent care and we have primary care too. We're here to help people when they need it, and that's what I love about my job.” Said Natalya.



Natalya Weber
PA-C

We're proud to have **Natalya Weber** as a part of the **Hunter Health team**. Her dedication to helping patients and her passion for healthcare are evident in the care she provides to our community.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month, and at Hunter Health, we celebrate and honor the contributions of our African American community.

We are proud to have a diverse staff that reflects the community we serve, and are committed to providing inclusive and culturally sensitive care to our patients. This month, we're sharing photos of our black employees to showcase the diversity within our team. As a healthcare provider, we believe that diversity and inclusivity are essential to providing the best care for our patients.



We are committed to being a welcoming and safe space for all, and we will continue to work toward increasing diversity in all aspects of our organization.

A Reason to Smile: Rachael Castro's Journey

Meet Rachael Castro, a relatively new dental patient of ours. She was pleasantly surprised by the warm and welcoming atmosphere at the clinic, and she was especially impressed by the level of care she received from the staff.

“I never imagined I would be treated so normally,” Rachael says “I was a little emotional and embarrassed, but the staff made me feel comfortable and supported.”

Rachael had always taken care of her teeth and made sure to brush regularly, but found herself in a difficult position when she lost dental coverage and her usual brushing habits started to slip.

“I suppose I'm a statistic," she said, "I've always gone to the dentist, but I got off kilter when I lost coverage. It took me a long time to come here, but I'm glad I did.”

She was initially hesitant to seek treatment as she thought she might have to lose some of her teeth, but was eventually encouraged to try Hunter Health by a friend. “I didn't even know this place was here," she said, "it's kind of hidden. But I'm glad I found out about it.”

Rachael was impressed by the range of services and the clean and modern facilities, but was amazed to find out that Hunter Health offers



care for everyone, regardless of their insurance coverage. “I didn't know that,” she said, “I thought it was just for people who are struggling. I was pleasantly surprised to find out that it's for everyone.”

Rachael is now on a treatment plan to save her remaining teeth, something she thought wouldn't be possible. **We hope Rachael's story will encourage others to seek the care they deserve, no matter their financial situation.**

Healthy Smiles for a Lifetime

February is National Children's Dental Health Month and at Hunter Health, we're committed to educating our patients and their families on the importance of good oral hygiene.

Our Dental Outreach Coordinator, Rosalie Gaulier, is a strong advocate for preventative care. She dedicated several hours last month to educating our patients, with a special emphasis on our OB patients, on the benefits of establishing good oral habits early on for a lifetime of healthy smiles. We were able to schedule appointments for several people from those educational sessions, empowering them to take charge of their oral health.

Good oral hygiene is essential for overall health and well-being. At Hunter Health, we provide comprehensive and affordable dental services for children including regular check-ups, cleanings, and treatments to prevent and address any dental issues. Our team is dedicated to making sure that every child who walks through our doors leaves with a healthy and beautiful smile.

Dental outreach in FY22 (K-12 Schools and community outreach events):

- 10,368 dental screenings
- 220 cleanings
- 259 fluoride varnishes

6,889 appointments

