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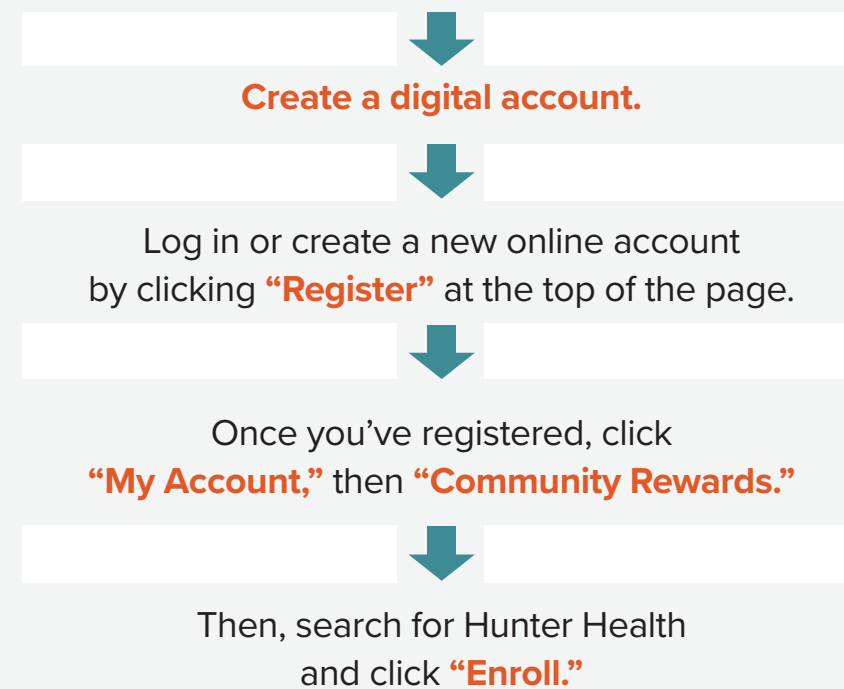
Support Hunter Health's Mission



Did you know that you can support Hunter Health's mission while you grocery-shop at Dillions? When you register with Dillons Community Rewards and choose Hunter Health as your nonprofit, Dillons will donate a portion of every purchase you make to our organization.



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Operation Immunization

Hunter Health Partners with KU School of Pharmacy-Wichita >>>

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Watch videos about Hunter Health on an array of topics.



Hunter Health serves the surrounding community in the Wichita area in part through work with many partner agencies, allowing us to provide care that embraces all of us. This month, Hunter Health partnered with Wichita's KU School of Pharmacy-Academy of Student Pharmacists and United Way of the Plains to offer free flu shots for those three and older who are unemployed, uninsured, or unable to pay.



People from racial and ethnic-minority groups experience higher rates of severe flu. That's why this program focuses on those with lower incomes and/or underserved populations.

"We are excited to partner with the dedicated team at Hunter Health to add more reach and capability to Operation Immunization to reduce the preventable burden on the healthcare system from influenza-associated medical visits and hospitalizations. This annual initiative that focuses on underserved populations of our community is *vital to the overall health of our region*, and we couldn't achieve the larger, collective impact of serving others without the extraordinary professionals of Hunter Health working side by side with us." — **Pete Najera**, *President and CEO of United Way of the Plains*

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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.

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Operation Immunization

Continued.

“Operation Immunization is organized and implemented by local pharmacy students who gain valuable leadership and clinical skills throughout the event. Additionally, we have engagement from licensed and immunization-certified pharmacist instructors to supervise the process. This is one of the many student-led events that allow for the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of the Wichita community, and we are pleased that so many volunteer their time to this important cause.”

— Dean Ronald Ragan, the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy

Student pharmacists provided flu vaccines to dozens of people at our Central Clinic on Saturday, October 15.

It's just one step in our efforts to effectively promote flu vaccination, including within our communities of color, this flu season. Because when

every individual is embraced in an environment of care and social support, we create a healthier community for us all.



It's Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Making an Impact Through Collaboration



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time to draw attention to the most common cancer for women in the United States, and the second most common cause of cancer death in women. It also serves as a reminder for women to schedule their annual mammogram screening.

Hunter Health patient **Yolanda Caesar** is sounding the alarm on just how crucial an annual mammogram can be. Months ago, she came to our clinic for a routine checkup with Callie Wentling, Director of Clinical Quality and Engagement. During the appointment, Callie noticed something abnormal and scheduled

Yolanda to get a mammogram. The results showed Yolanda in stages one and two of breast cancer — meaning the cancer was small but growing beyond the early stages.

That meant a hysterectomy and mastectomy was next to remove the cancer. “And that meant losing my womanhood, so I sat there and cried a long time,” Yolanda says. “But then I thought about it — do I want to live or die? And I wanted to live. So, I continued on through my journey.”

Yolanda is now cancer-free, says she's happy to be living every day, and says it was her routine appointment with Hunter Health that kept her alive.



“The goal of screening for breast cancer is to find it before it causes symptoms, like a lump that can be felt. Breast cancer found during screening exams is more likely to be smaller in extent and have better outcomes.”

— Dr. Caitlin Chiles, Director of Primary Care



“Callie is the one who discovered it, and she was by my side the whole time,” she says. “If it hadn't been for her, the cancer could have progressed to stage three or worse, because I didn't even know I had it.”

“You should get your annual checkups every year so you can be safe.”

Health insurance coverage is often a barrier to women scheduling a yearly mammogram. Through a partnership with Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Hunter Health refers eligible patients to the Early Detection Works Program (EDWP).

“The best defense against breast cancer is early detection. When found in its earliest stage, patient outcomes are significantly better than for those whose cancer is detected in later stages. The Early Detection Works Program is here to assist low-income, uninsured, or underinsured Kansas residents by providing funding for free breast- and cervical-cancer screening.”

— Suzanne Proctor, RN, BSN, Early Detection Works Nurse Manager

This program provides clinical breast exams, mammograms, Pap tests, and diagnostic services for women who meet the following requirements:

- Women **21 to 64** years old for cervical-cancer screenings.
- Women **40 to 64** years old for breast-cancer screenings.
- Women who do not have health insurance.
- The woman's family income must be at or below 250% of current federal poverty guidelines.

Honoring Our Heritage

Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day in Wichita



Across its history, Hunter Health has provided quality, culturally appropriate, holistic health care to American Indian and Alaska Native communities. We are committed to continuing our legacy of service to these communities through traditional, innovative, patient-centered care.

Urban Indian Health Programs are designated Federally Qualified Health Centers that provide comprehensive primary care and related services to American Indians and Alaska Natives through grants and other funding. Hunter Health is one of just 41 Urban Indian Health Programs in the nation, and the only one in Kansas.

On Tuesday, October 4, our own **Newman Washington** — a representative

of the Native American Community Resource Coalition — was among those who accepted the city of Wichita's proclamation recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day. Newman spoke about the history of Indigenous people and the importance of teaching their culture to future generations.

“This is about our community coming together and working together,” he says. “Thank you to the mayor and city council for all of their work and support within our Native American community.”

“I encourage the people of Wichita to celebrate the thriving cultures and values of the Indigenous people of our city,” says Wichita

Mayor Brandon Whipple. “And I strongly encourage them to join communities across America in recognizing and promoting the well-being and understanding of the contributions of our Indigenous communities.”

Days later, The Native American Community Resource Coalition commemorated Indigenous Peoples' Day at a free event on Saturday, October 8 at the Mid-America All-Indian Museum (MAAIM), 650 North Seneca Street.

Attendees walked around the drum in a remembrance walk honoring those who suffered during the Trail of Tears. We were honored to attend and provide COVID-19 and flu vaccines, dental kits and much more.

A September of Celebrations

We are proud to have taken part in a few of Wichita's most important yearly cultural celebrations this past month. Our outreach team was on hand at the **2022 Inter-Tribal Warrior Society Annual Powwow** to provide access to critical health resources and celebrate members' individual tribal customs and shared heritage through dance and music.

We also attended the **Wichita Pride Festival** — where we were able to show our unwavering support for the LGBTQIA+ community — along with the incredible cultural display that is **Latinfest ICT**. Both events gave us the opportunity to connect the community to our care resources and celebrate what makes each of us unique. **It was an unforgettable September!**



NEW COVID-19 Booster Shots Now Available!

COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers Pfizer and Moderna have updated their booster shots to be more effective against the prominent coronavirus variants Omicron BA.4/5. These shots will be given in a single dose to those who have previously completed a primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine. It does not matter how many boosters you've received, but there is a recommended waiting period after your most recent dose.