

New Direction

Toshua assists patient post discharge

We somehow missed recognizing Toshua McAlister when she was nominated for a Wow Moment last year! Toshua, a transporter/CNA for Bomar Rehab Center was nominated by nurse Gerda Wilson when Toshua went the extra mile (literally) to ensure that a discharged patient got back home safely. The patient had problems with mobility and no one was at her home to assist her. Toshua, being the supportive, hard working team member that she is, followed the transport cab to the patient's home. Once there, Toshua helped our patient into her home and adjusted her walker to the appropriate height.

No one told or even asked Toshua to do this; she simply saw a patient that needed some extra care and made sure she got it.

Toshua is known for performing above the standard of care, making her a valuable team member and a pleasure to work with. Toshua, you're a true gift to all of us!



Sylvia surpasses all expectations, awarded WOW

Sylvia Thompson, director of materials management, has earned this month's Wow for the decisions she makes and the actions she takes when no one is watching. Orthopedist, Dr. Kenneth Jurist explained the situation in his Wow submission, "It was about two months ago, I had written an order in Cerner for a knee brace. There was a particular patient at Bomar who was having knee pain that limited their progress in the physical therapy sessions. They had known knee problems and I wrote an order for the brace. After the order was written, I did not know where the braces come from. I came to find out that we do not stock any braces and do not have any sales reps or company contracts to provide them. Sylvia could have simply called and said we can't do that."

"However, unbeknownst to me, she went to at least three different stores on her own to try to get the brace that I had ordered and buy it," Dr. Jurist said. "She went to Walgreens, Walmart and a couple of other places shopping for the right brace. She never called and asked if that would be necessary, she just did it because it was an order for a patient."

"That says something about Sylvia and her caring nature. She deserves recognition even though that is not why she did it. She should be an example to others, as she exemplifies what it takes to serve patients. Actions like that are what will separate Memorial employees from other facilities and make patients feel special."

We applaud your proactive, patients-first attitude, Sylvia!



Kim's consistency earns her Job Well Done

Kim Reeves, certified respiratory tech, was recognized for a Job Well Done by the Nacogdoches County Hospital District Board last month. Kim has been a dedicated employee in the cardiopulmonary department for over 30 years. She was described as reliable and an outstanding asset, not only in patient care, but to her teammates as well.

"You never have to worry about her completing her work, no matter the amount or difficulty of the given task," reported her supervisor. "Kim's ability to comfort and care for her patients is a true example of excellence. Her actions in her job are always above and beyond what is expected and she is truly a great addition to the Memorial team."

Kim's work ethic and desire to lead is a service to her teammates, her department, and to Memorial Hospital as a whole.



Blood Drive March 18

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Auxiliary Conference Center

Donate & be entered in a drawing for a Splash Kingdom family 4-pack!

Coronavirus: we're keeping you informed and prepared for COVID-19

What is Coronavirus? Coronaviruses were first identified in 1960 and there are seven different types, four of which cause mild to moderate upper respiratory tract illnesses. Other types of the viruses include SARS, MERS and the current COVID-19.

How does it travel? COVID-19 is spread by close person-to-person contact from droplets from a cough or sneeze which can get into your mouth, nose or lungs. Close contact is defined as being within approximately six feet of another person.

How do you know if you have the COVID-19? If you have recently been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or have traveled to a place where an outbreak has occurred, it's possible you could have contracted it, though no cases of community spread have been reported in Texas.

Symptoms include: fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms may show up two to 14 days after exposure. Unless your symptoms are severe, you should call your healthcare provider first before entering a healthcare facility. Be sure to let your healthcare provider know your symptoms, travel history, or if you were exposed to a person diagnosed with the virus.

The World Health Organization says 80% of people with COVID-19 have a mild form of illness with cold- or flu-like symptoms. The people most likely to get seriously ill from the virus are people over 60 and/or those with pre-existing health conditions.

Should I be wearing a mask? According to health officials, masks are only recommended if you are coughing and sneezing, in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. People in places where the spread is more likely could be instructed to wear a mask to prevent the spread.

The following tips will help prevent COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses like flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If no soap is available use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Don't touch your mouth, eyes, nose, especially with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are showing symptoms of illness.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or sneeze into your elbow. Throw tissue in the garbage and make sure to clean your hands afterwards.
- Stay home when you are sick.

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