

UMC Newsletter

November 27, 2020

Volume 2, Number 4



Give Thanks

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Happy Friday UMC team, I trust that you all had a safe and enjoyable holiday with your loved ones yesterday. I know many of us were here caring for our patients as we do every day and hope the Thanksgiving meal you received was enjoyable.

The inspirational author William A. Ward once said, "gratitude can transform common days into Thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings." So let me take this opportunity to express my extreme gratitude for all you do. Your job may seem routine but the care you provide allows our patients to live healthier lifestyles and ultimately have more opportunities to experience joy. The opportunity to work with such an amazing team over the last 11 months has brought many challenges but has also been a blessing for many.

Although the end of the year is near, let us continue to grow our list of accomplishments and creating more blessings for/with our staff and the individuals entrusted in our care.

Be well, do great!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clyde Samuel", written over a light blue background.

Chief Executive Officer

1310 Southern Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20032
202-574-6000
Unitedmedicaldc.com



Who We Are...

Our Mission
&
Our Vision

The Not-for-Profit Hospital Corporation, commonly known as United Medical Center or UMC is a District of Columbia government acute care hospital servicing Southeast DC and surrounding Maryland communities

Our Mission

United Medical Center is dedicated to the health and well-being of individuals and communities entrusted in our care

Our Vision

UMC will be an efficient, patient-focused, provider of high quality healthcare the community needs

UMC will employ innovative approaches that yield excellent experiences

UMC will empower healthcare professionals to live up to their potential to benefit our patients

UMC will collaborate with others to provide high value, integrated and patient-centered services



Who We Are...

Values

Values

• *Compassion*

Empathy for patients, their families and staff is ingrained in our history and inspires our future. We do more than treat the patient we practice family-centered care as the cornerstone of compassion.

• *Excellence*

Our promise to treat, prevent and cure disease is an enormous responsibility. We follow the highest standards of quality and safety and expect accountability from each other.

• *Integrity*

At all times, we approach our work with openness, transparency, decency and humility. It is our responsibility to use resources wisely to sustain UMC for generations to come.

• *Collaboration*

We work in partnership with patients, their families, staff, providers, volunteers and other caregivers. This spirit of respectful cooperation extends beyond our walls to our business partners and the community.

• *Equity*

We embrace and find strength in the diversity of our patients, their families, staff and community. We believe all patients deserve exceptional care, the best outcomes, respect and a safe environment.

• *Innovation*


We aspire to be an innovative leader in community healthcare and service. We continually seek new and better solutions. Because innovation springs from knowledge, we foster learning in all disciplines.

Who We Are...

Values



To: UMC Employees

From: Trenell Bradley, Human Resources Director 

Date: November 11, 2020

Subject: **SAVE THE DATE: 2021 Benefits Open Enrollment**

We are excited to announce that United Medical Center's Benefits Open Enrollment begins on **Monday, November 23rd and ends on Monday, December 7th at 11:59 pm.** Please save the date, you will receive additional information regarding the updates in our benefit plans, open enrollment meetings, and enrollment instructions.

Below is a list of a few key updates for the 2021 UMC Benefits Open Enrollment:

- ✓ In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, open enrollment meetings will be virtual. UMC **will not** conduct enrollment meetings in-person.
- ✓ All UMC administered benefits plans must be selected during open enrollment, at the time of hire, or in response to a qualifying life changing event.
- ✓ There is **no change** to employee premiums for health plans through CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.
- ✓ There is **no change** to employee premiums for vision plans through Vision Benefits of America (VBA).
- ✓ There is a **2.99%** increase to employee premiums for dental plans through Aetna Dental.
- ✓ Sun Life will provide coverage for Short-term disability and Long-term disability. The Short-term disability benefit has increased from a \$500/week maximum to \$1,500/week maximum (more information to come).
- ✓ Colonial Life will **no longer** provide Term Life and Short-term disability to UMC employees. Employees who elected coverage with this insurance provider will receive communication directly from Colonial Life regarding continuation of coverage.

For questions, please contact Precious Middleton, Benefits Administrator at pmiddelton@united-medicalcenter.com or at (202) 574-6887. Be on the lookout for more information regarding the upcoming Benefits Open Enrollment.



Mandatory

- Attention Staff !!!
- Flu vaccines will be given in Employee Health Clinic beginning 09/21/2020 on :
- Monday - Friday : 7 AM –12 Noon
- Monday - Friday : 4 PM – 5:30 PM
- Location: Medical Office Building 2nd floor
- Room 211

Hey!
WELCOME
We're *very* **GLAD**
you're here!

UMC would like to welcome our newest members to the team!

Edward Strother-ED

Aimee Jones-ED

Leensee Chawaka-Lab

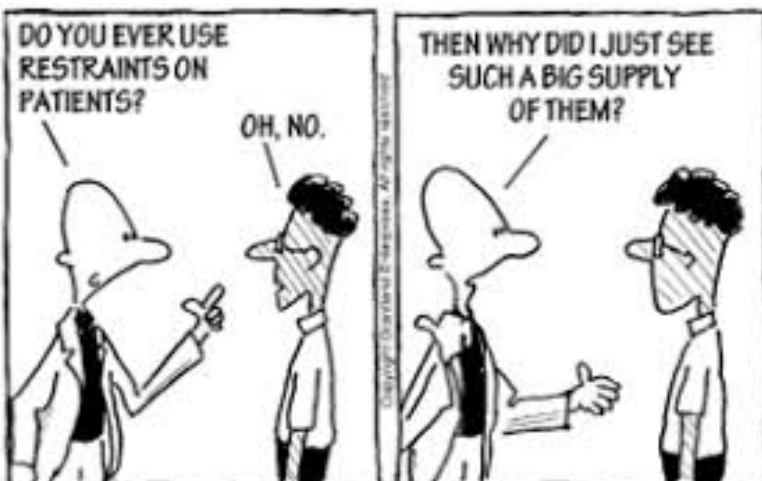
Cara Ndam-ED

Tigist Hirpa-ED

Seniat Ghebrehiwet-8W

Eyob Tesfamichael-8W

Linda Blomquist-CCU



STAY SAFE

As the District of Columbia's only public hospital, we all have a heightened responsibility to prevent the spread of COVID-19 **whether on/or off duty**. Although the city continues to reopen we must continue to adhere to the safety and social distancing mandates in effect throughout the region.



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IT'S SIMPLE: WHEN YOU LEAVE HOME, YOU MUST

WEAR A MASK.



Common allowable exceptions:



You are a child age 2 or younger



You are vigorously exercising outdoors and not close to anyone else

You are actively eating or drinking



You are in an enclosed office and alone

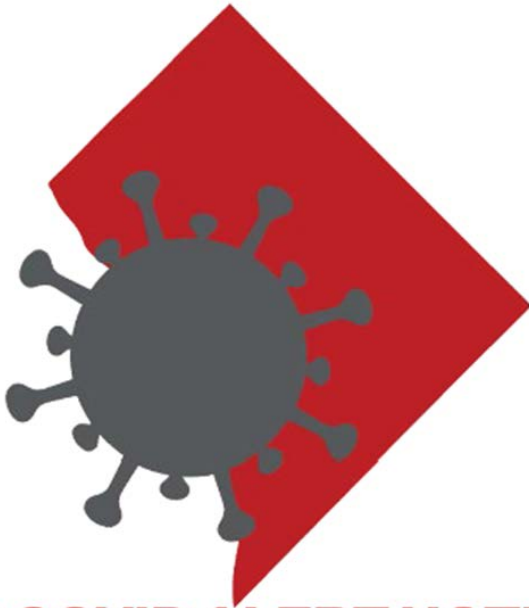


Wear a mask. Save lives. Stop the spread.



DC HEALTH
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



DC COVID ALERT NOTICE

Get DC's free DC COVID Alert Notice (DC CAN) to help protect your community while protecting your privacy.

Public health authorities around the world are building apps that use the Exposure Notifications System to help their contact tracing efforts.

DC CAN uses Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technology to quickly notify users who have likely been exposed so you can reduce the risk of infection for your friends and family and help DC stop the spread.

To get DC's free DC COVID Alert Notice (DC CAN) click the link below to receive instructions.

<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/dccan>

UMC GIVES BACK

DID YOU KNOW?

New socks and undergarments are the two most requested but least donated items at homeless shelters across the nation?

As the weather changes and we enter the holiday season, please remember those in need.

UMC Cold Weather Clothing Drive

READY FOR WINTER?

Unfortunately, many of our patients and neighbors are not. Let's help them out by donating a few key items.



The Clothes Closet will be collecting:
NEW wool/warm socks, hats, gloves
and
GENTLY WORN coats

Drop boxes: HR, Nurse Admin, & MOB

Contact: Nurse Cherrel Christian @ x6648





Back in November 1983, President Ronald Reagan designated November as [National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month](#). At the time, fewer than 2 million Americans had Alzheimer's; today, the number of people with the disease has soared to nearly 5.4 million.

During November, National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness month aims at making the general public more aware of the disease and the scale of it among the U.S. population, as well as bring new light potential care options for those affected.

- **Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia**, a general term for memory loss and other cognitive abilities serious enough to interfere with daily life. Alzheimer's disease accounts for 60 to 80 percent of dementia cases.
- **Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging**. The greatest known risk factor is increasing age, and the majority of people with Alzheimer's are 65 and older. But Alzheimer's is not just a disease of old age. Approximately 200,000 Americans under the age of 65 have younger-onset Alzheimer's disease (also known as early-onset Alzheimer's).
- **Alzheimer's worsens over time**. Alzheimer's is a progressive disease, where dementia symptoms gradually worsen over a number of years. In its early stages, memory loss is mild, but with late-stage Alzheimer's, individuals lose the ability to carry on a conversation and respond to their environment. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. Those with Alzheimer's live an average of eight years after their symptoms become noticeable to others, but survival can range from four to 20 years, depending on age and other health conditions.
- **Alzheimer's has no current cure, but treatments for symptoms are available and research continues**. Although current Alzheimer's treatments cannot stop Alzheimer's from progressing, they can temporarily slow the worsening of dementia symptoms and improve quality of life for those with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. Today, there is a worldwide effort under way to find better ways to treat the disease, delay its onset, and prevent it from developing.

For more information on Alzheimer's disease click the link below

<https://www.uncityhealthcare.com/national-alzheimers-disease-awareness-month-educating-the-public-on-the-alzheimers-epidemic-in-the-u-s/#:~:text=Contacting%20Uncity-National%20Alzheimer's%20Disease%20Awareness%20Month%3A%20Educating%20The%20Public%20On%20The,National%20Alzheimer's%20Disease%20Awareness%20Month.>

Clostridioides difficile:

A Public Health Threat in Plain Sight

Clostridioides difficile (pronounced: klos-TRID-e-OY-dees dif-uh-SEEL) – or **C. difficile** – is a bacterium (germ) that can cause a serious and potentially life-threatening infection associated with symptoms from diarrhea to severe intestinal infections.^{1,2}

Recognizing the CDC defining *C. difficile* infection as an urgent public health threat, a group of experts representing a cross-section of healthcare professionals and patient organizations impacted by this infectious disease launched the *C. difficile* Awareness Initiative. Working together, and with support from Pfizer Inc., this multidisciplinary panel of experts represents infectious disease specialists, physicians, and nurses as well as representatives of patient support groups and professional organizations. They share a common mission: to build and expand public awareness of and education around *C. difficile*. The focus is to reach a broad spectrum of people who are potentially at risk of contracting this infection.

The *C. difficile* Awareness Initiative's goal is helping both the healthcare community and the general public understand three critical points surrounding this public health issue:

- 1**
***C. difficile* bacteria can be anywhere and persistent**
- 2**
***C. difficile* infection (CDI) is unpredictable and can occur in anyone, particularly adults**
- 3**
CDI can be a debilitating disease

This Call-to-Action represents the group's broad array of experience with and understanding of the current disease state. It provides a closer examination of the issues to establish a more widespread understanding of *C. difficile* and raise awareness of the potential risks for and impact of the infection. The goal is to galvanize relevant experts and organizations to work collectively toward solutions for combatting this potentially serious infectious disease.



The Founding Committee of the *C. difficile* Awareness Initiative includes:



James C. Appleby, BSPHarm, MPH, Chief Executive Officer, The Gerontological Society of America. www.geron.org (aging community representative)



Erik R. Dubberke, MD, MSPH, Professor of Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine. (*C. difficile*/infectious disease expert)



Millicent Gorham, PhD (Hon), MBA, FAAN, Executive Director, National Black Nurses Association. www.nbna.org (nursing representative)



Christian John Lillis, Executive Director, Peggy Lillis Foundation. www.peggyfoundation.org (*C. difficile* patient representative)



Artie L. Shelton, MD, Colonel, USA (Ret), Director of the Vietnam Veterans of America's Veterans Health Council. www.vva.org/what-we-do/outreach-programs/veterans-health-council/ (veteran representative)



Jennifer Moisi, PhD, Senior Director, Medical and Scientific Affairs and Global Medical Lead, Bacterial Pipeline Vaccines, Pfizer Inc., www.Pfizer.com (industry representative)

To read the full article click the link below:

Pfizer.com



Community Resources & Activities

The Hospital Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team recognizes that you are more than an employee and that as much as you care for our patients, staff, and visitors, you must also care for your families at home.



Meet UMC @ The Faunteroy Center in Ward 7 every Wednesday!



United Medical Center Comes to Ward-7!

FCEC & UMC Presents:

“Wellness on Wheels”



STI Testing
(HIV free without insurance)

COVID19 Testing

Wellness Checks
(high blood pressure, diabetes, kidney disease and more)

Treatment
(allergies, rashes, earaches, stomach aches, sore throats, burns, muscle strains and more)

Referrals to Specialist

Every Wednesday!
Starting
Wednesday September 9 , 2020
10:00am-3:00pm

Location:
4800 Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave NE
Washington DC 20019

In front of the The FH Faunteroy Community
Enrichment Center

Bring your insurance card & ID



<https://faunteroycenter.org/>
<https://www.unitedmedicaldc.com/>





**DCHA Family, Senior and Disabled Properties &
United Medical Center Mobile Clinic Operations
Schedule**

WEEK 8

11/16 Greenleaf Family
11/17 Hopkins Apartments

WEEK 9

11/23 Regency House
11/24 Langston Terrace

WEEK 10

11/30 Lincoln Heights
12/1 Richard Dwellings



For the latest information on the District Government's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), please visit coronavirus.dc.gov.

Cases as of November 25, 2020

	Total Number Positives	Percent
All	20,516	100
Race		
Unknown	74	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	39	<1
Asian	331	2
Black/African American	9643	47
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	58	<1
Other/Multi-Racial	5601	27
White	4768	23
Ethnicity		
Unknown	1750	9
Hispanic or Latinx	4934	24
NOT Hispanic or Latinx	13,814	67

UMC IN THE NEWS–November

12–November 25, 2020

UMC Staff are reminded to direct **ALL MEDIA INQUIRIES** to Toya Carmichael, VP of Public Relations @Tcarmichael@united-medicalcenter.com.



[George Washington University Teams Up With Community Organizations for Flu Clinics.](#) November 12, 2020

[Keeping the Faith at the City's Only Hospital East of the Anacostia River.](#)

Hamil R. Harris, November 18, 2020

[Patients strongly favor banning bacon in hospitals, according to new survey.](#)

EurekAlert, November 18, 2020

[Morning Roundup: Gun Show Organizer Sues Virginia For Exemption To Host Large Indoor Event.](#)

Colleen Grablick, DCist November 19, 2020