



Reeves County
Hospital District

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Hospital Gives Thanks for Tireless Staff on Christmas

As the region celebrates, RCHD thanks its team for working around the clock during COVID-19.

PECOS, Texas (Dec. 14, 2020) – Christmas is a special time of year when we give thanks for life’s many blessings. This year, healthcare professionals in our region, and across the country, are working day and night to care for patients who are suffering from COVID-19. During this year’s holiday, Reeves County Hospital District is thanking them and their tireless efforts to protect the community.

“As we gather to celebrate this year, our entire hospital staff are working long hours and putting their health at risk to care for those who are affected by this dangerous virus,” said Brenda McKinney, CEO of Reeves County Hospital. “We are grateful for their dedication. To honor them this holiday season, we urge everyone to take steps to slow the spread of this disease.”

The sharp rise in COVID-19 infections in recent weeks has put stress on healthcare systems across the state. As hospital beds fill up, healthcare teams are working around the clock to help those who become seriously ill from the virus.

According to recent state statistics, more than 1.5 million Texans have become ill with COVID-19 this year. The number of Texans who have died from the virus has reached more than 25,000.

McKinney said that our entire healthcare team is feeling the pinch. As more patients become ill, more hospital beds are filling up, meaning longer hours for healthcare providers and fewer healthcare resources for patients who need them.

McKinney said that taking steps to slow the spread of the virus is key to protecting the most vulnerable in the community and healthcare works. Limiting the size of holiday gatherings is crucial. Health officials urge everyone to limit holiday gatherings to members of the same household. Those who do choose to attend a group gathering are urged to consider meeting outside and to make sure everyone wears a mask.

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According to McKinney, with infection numbers at record levels and hospitals facing swelling numbers of sick patients, taking steps to protect your health is especially important.

One great way to protect your health is by getting your annual flu shot. Although the vaccine is not yet widely available, this year's flu shot is available and has been updated to better match circulating viruses and improve its overall effectiveness.

Another step you can take is taking advantage of your yearly wellness exam. These exams, covered once a year by Medicare and most insurance plans, ensure that you are in good health and caught up on important health screenings.

According to McKinney, support from the community this year has helped a great deal to keep the medical team motivated.

"We are grateful for the outpouring of support that we have received from the community throughout this difficult year," McKinney said. "This holiday season has been especially difficult for many people, but that doesn't mean that we don't have things to be thankful for. If we take steps to protect each other, we can ensure many happy holidays in years to come."

To schedule an appointment at the Pecos Valley Rural Health Clinic, call 432-447-0565. To learn more about local healthcare services, visit www.reevescountyhospital.com.

About Reeves County Hospital District

Reeves County Hospital District (RCHD) provides healthcare services for people in Reeves County and neighboring communities in West Texas. Founded in 1954, RCHD, a Level IV Trauma Center, offers a wide variety of medical services, including emergency care, diagnostic radiology, physical therapy, general surgery, a clinical laboratory and more. RCHD also operates American Home Health and Hospice and the Pecos Valley Rural Health Clinic, which offers family care, immunizations and other medical services. For more information, please visit www.reevescountyhospital.com.

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