



Press Release
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Appreciation for Hospital Volunteers Highlighted during National Week of Recognition

Reeves County Hospital District celebrates National Volunteer Week April 17-23.

PECOS, Texas (April 18, 2022) – Volunteerism is one of the most direct ways one can give back and make a difference in their community. At Reeves County Hospital District (RCHD), volunteers have had a history of making a difference in patients' lives. They have played an essential role in the hospital district's ability to provide compassionate healthcare services.

RCHD is participating in National Volunteer Week, observed April 17 through the 23rd this year, by recognizing the hard work and selflessness of volunteers and community members who give their time and talents to help their neighbors.

"The role volunteers have played in our organization over the years has been vital, but have been greatly reduced since the start of the pandemic," explains Brenda McKinney, CEO of RCHD.

Volunteer activities have been on pause since early 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, RCHD officials continue to highlight the incredible and vital role volunteers have long played in helping the district achieve its goals.

"As the world opens back up again, so is Reeves County Hospital District. While procedures are being established to welcome volunteers back to the Hospital District, we still take the time to showcase our appreciation for volunteers of the past while highlighting upcoming opportunities, noted McKinney."

Hospital District volunteers have taken on a variety of responsibilities in the past, including staffing and stocking the Hospital's Gift Shop, raising money for needed equipment, helping to provide baby baskets for new parents, stocking the candy machines, and assisting at the hospital district's annual health fair.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 by a presidential proclamation signed by Richard Nixon. Each U.S. president, many governors, mayors, and other elected officials, have since signed a proclamation each year celebrating National Volunteer Week.

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Nearly one-quarter of Americans take time to volunteer, according to a survey released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2016. The Corporation for National and Community Service estimates that approximately 22.99 percent of Texans volunteer their time.

Beyond helping individuals and local organizations, research has shown that volunteering provides many benefits, including increasing a person's confidence, reducing loneliness, improving mental health, and promoting happiness and a sense of wellbeing.

According to McKinney, RCHD is beginning to ramp up outreach initiatives to grow its group of volunteers in the coming months as the district prepares to move into its new hospital campus.

"Our new facility will provide many volunteer opportunities for our community," McKinney adds. "From the initial move to settling in, helping direct new patients and visitors to running our new Gift Shop, we look forward to getting back to the basics of daily operations as we work through the pandemic with safety protocols in place. Volunteers will once again be vital to our organization, and we look forward to welcoming them back."

To learn how you can donate your time to RCHD in the future, please call 432-447-3351 ext. 1547 or 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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