

March 23, 2021



Hi Team –

I hope you were able to join us last week for our March Town Hall! We provided a COVID update, reviewed our latest team wins and accomplishments on our journey to get healthcare right, and reported on the growing number of encouraging signs indicating that this hopefully once-in-a-century pandemic is slowly coming to an end! If you weren't able to make it, click [here](#) to view video highlights of the Town Hall.

COVID Update

Last week, we saw a concerning, slight uptick in COVID cases (see sidebar statistics), which we are closely monitoring and are well-prepared to respond to, if necessary. We are also continuing to ramp up vaccine administration capacity in anticipation of increasing allotments from the state due to expanded production and availability of the third Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Based on commitments from the state for future allotments, we are also now scheduling appointments three weeks out and will soon be opening additional vaccine locations to meet public demand in a safe and timely manner.

More encouraging news – early laboratory research suggests that the groundbreaking mRNA vaccine technology used to create the COVID vaccine appears to also be offering protection against the emerging COVID variants! The mRNA technology, which produced the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, activates the body to recognize and build immunities against the spike proteins, which all variants of COVID contain. At last week's Town Hall, Dr. Stephen Blatt, TriHealth's Director of Infectious Diseases, discussed how this works and the positive impact it could have on our national and worldwide efforts to build lasting herd immunity including, if necessary, quickly creating boosters for new variants. To watch the discussion, click [here](#). To learn more about mRNA technology from the CDC, click [here](#).

We Want YOUR Designs for This Year's Healthcare Heroes Week T-shirt!

One fun way TriHealth plans to recognize and thank our great team during Healthcare Heroes Week this May is by, once again, giving every team member a really cool "Healthcare Heroes 2.0 T-shirt" to wear with pride! But this year, we want YOU to help design it! So I'm excited to announce our first-ever **Healthcare Heroes Week T-shirt Design Contest** open to all team members! Submit your designs for a chance to win great prizes and have your design featured on this year's Heroes shirt. Visit Bridge for full [contest rules](#) – and yes... the t-shirts will be the exact same, high-quality fabric, from the same manufacturer, as last year's awesome shirts, which are seen being worn proudly every day by our TriHealth Heroes throughout the system! So get your creative juices flowing and start designing – we can't wait to see what you come up with!!

Celebrating Women's History Month

This month, we honor the thousands of inspiring and accomplished women nurses, doctors, team members and leaders here at TriHealth, beginning with the pioneering and visionary Sisters of Charity and the Methodist Deaconesses who founded our flagship hospitals more than 100 years ago. Together, they set out to lead the

COVID-19 Weekly Update

- **33** COVID-positive patients in TriHealth hospitals with **6** on ventilators in the ICU.
- **5.3%** COVID positivity rate overall, with a **9.4%** positivity rate for symptomatic patients tested at TriHealth over past two weeks. **Target positivity rate is under 5%!**
- Please stay **VIGILANT** about practicing **COVID Always Behaviors...**
 - Wear masks
 - Social distance
 - Stay home when sick
 - Hand Hygiene
 - Gatherings of 10 or less

way in providing faith-based, values-centered, high-quality care to our community, including and especially the underserved – a mission and tradition we have continued and built upon since the founding of TriHealth 25 years ago.

Flash forward to today, and we continue to be blessed with this enduring legacy of strong and visionary women pioneers who, over the years, have helped set TriHealth apart as an industry leader and model for getting healthcare right!! Some recent examples include the following exceptionally talented TriHealth women who have been recognized this year for their outstanding contributions to healthcare and our community:



Tashawna Otabil, Senior Director, Managed Care, was recently named as a **2021 YWCA Career Woman of Achievement by the YWCA Greater Cincinnati**. This award recognizes outstanding women in their fields for work in empowerment and economic advancement, safety, racial justice and inclusion. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Jeanette Altenau, Director of Community Relations & Government Affairs, received the **St. George National Award from the American Cancer Society (ACS)**. The national award recognizes one regional volunteer who has made significant contributions to the organization's strategic goals by helping advance the American Cancer Society's mission to save lives, celebrate lives and lead the fight for a world without cancer. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Jill Miller, President of one of our sponsors, Bethesda Inc. and bi3, received the **COVID-19 Regional Response Award** at the **Smart Business Magazine's 2021 Medical Mutual Pillar Awards**. The COVID-19 Regional Response Fund sought to leverage trusted partnerships and gain broad community engagement to provide timely support to local and regional nonprofits. In just seven weeks, the Fund exceeded its goals, raising and awarding millions of dollars in emergency relief to over 250 local nonprofit organizations serving the region's most vulnerable individuals and families. Click [here](#) to learn more.



Sister Sally Duffy, Sister of Charity of Cincinnati and TriHealth Board of Trustees Secretary, is the first-ever TriHealth Board member to be appointed to a fourth three-year term. Given her unique abilities and remarkable talents and achievements, earlier this month, our Board and Sponsors decided unanimously to wave the three-term limits in place in order to continue to benefit from Sr. Sally's unique experiences and perspectives for at least another three years. This is a testament to something those of us who are privileged to know Sister Sally have learned first-hand – she is an inspiration and one of a kind... *truly irreplaceable!!* Click [here](#) to learn more.

Visit Bridge today to read their full stories and to learn more about all the [Trailblazing Women at TriHealth!](#) And click [here](#) to see a picture collage of just a sampling of our current women leaders, doctors, nurses, and team members who continue to live our values and bring our mission to life, one patient at a time!!