

March 9, 2021



Following is a transcript of the Weekly Update video published March 9, 2021 and sent to all TriHealth team members, physicians and leaders.

Hi Team –

Once again, I'm using this video format for my Weekly Update today to share more encouraging news about COVID-19, as well as some important updates and exciting visuals related to our ongoing work to get healthcare right.

On the COVID front, cases and hospitalizations remain relatively stable at TriHealth and across the region, as you can see from the latest statistics shown here. In recent weeks, however, we have seen an uptick in cases across the country due to the emerging new and more contagious COVID variants, so it is clear this pandemic is NOT yet over and we must remain cautious and continue to ALWAYS practice the proven mitigation measures noted here, including mask wearing and avoiding large gatherings.

TriHealth will be doing its part to adhere to these measures by continuing to limit the size of in-person meetings. We are planning to reschedule or find safe "virtual" ways to host some of our upcoming larger, traditional events, such as the Good Samaritan Gala, the Bethesda Lyceum, Hospice's Gourmet Melodies, and our Hospital and Health System Week Team Member Celebrations. We'll share more updates about changes to these upcoming events as they become available.

We are proud to continue to lead by example for our patients and community who look to TriHealth as the model for how to safely coexist with COVID as we race to get everyone vaccinated and ultimately put this pandemic behind us. And we greatly appreciate all of YOUR efforts to help us remain TriHealth STRONG for each other and all those we serve!

Speaking of getting everyone vaccinated, TriHealth's Vaccination Program continues to shine in our region as a model for getting the COVID vaccination roll out right for our community!! And we were all excited to learn that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the FDA earlier this month, which now gives us a third tool to use in our efforts to safely vaccinate our patients and community, and do that as quickly as possible. Just last week, TriHealth received 600 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. And thanks to our exceptional vaccine teams, ALL of those doses were safely administered over the past weekend – in addition to our now steady, but still insufficient allotment of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines which has ranged from 3,000 to 3,700 doses in recent weeks! We were recently advised by the state that allotments are expected to increase in coming weeks, so fingers crossed!!!

Once again, I'd like to extend my deep appreciation to our entire team of operational, clinical, and administrative staff who have gone above and beyond to quickly and effectively "stand up" TriHealth's vaccination program, which now consists of five community vaccination centers! And in just a few short months,

COVID-19 Weekly Update

- **31** COVID-positive patients in TriHealth hospitals with **6** on ventilators in the ICU.
- **7.2%** COVID positivity rate overall, with a **11.7%** 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
 - Hand Hygiene
 - Social distance
 - Gatherings of 10 or less
 - Stay home when sick

we are already protecting – and potentially saving the lives of – tens of thousands of our team members, patients and community members. You ROCK and we are SO grateful for the remarkable way you've shown up during this time of critical need – **THANK YOU!**

And while we continue to excel in our response to the COVID pandemic, we are also making exciting progress on our journey to get healthcare right by offering the most comprehensive, integrated and highest performing network of hospitals, ambulatory campuses, physician practices and post-acute services! I am thrilled to share that earlier today, the TriHealth Board of Directors unanimously approved our \$140 million, five-year Master Facility and Modernization Plan for our flagship Good Samaritan Hospital Campus! This major milestone represents another giant leap forward in our plans to bring every patient we serve convenient access to our full continuum of world-class TriHealth care close to home in the most modern and state-of-the-art facilities! A BIG shout out to Jamie Easterling, Marla Silliman, Dr. Helen Koselka and our physician leaders – and all others who played such an instrumental role in developing this bold plan, which has been broadly embraced by Good Sam physicians, team members, and other stakeholders, and which will, over time, transform the Good Sam Hospital campus.

The five-year Master Facility Plan addresses the need for newer and larger operating rooms, with enhanced support functions, such as patient prep and recovery, family waiting, and wayfinding. These modern facilities will better support our nationally recognized Good Sam service lines, including neurosciences, cancer, women's health and advanced surgery. Over time, the Master Facility Plan will guide demolition of older, less functional buildings on the campus, as well as construction of new, state-of-the-art, environmentally-friendly buildings with improved way-finding that will deliver a significantly elevated patient care and visitor experience at every interaction – from first encounter driving up through discharge and departure. The Master Facility Plan will also continue to reorient the main entrance and primary access to the Good Sam Campus from Clifton Avenue to Dixmyth/MLK, with convenient access to I-75.

Phase I of the project will start this spring with demolition of the Hebrew Union Dormitory, which was acquired by TriHealth some time ago in anticipation of this project, to make room for a new team member parking garage. Phase II includes construction of a new five-story building to house all perioperative functions, as well as several floors of “shell” or unfinished space for eventual relocation of the Emergency Department and other Outpatient services. Look for regular progress reports in the coming months in my Weekly Updates and on Bridge! And as if all this wasn't exciting and impressive enough – we broke ground two weeks ago on the new TriHealth Heart Hospital on the campus of Bethesda North.

In closing, as I shared last week, we will be returning to our regular monthly schedule for Leader Meetings and Team Member Town Halls this month. With COVID cases and hospitalizations down sharply, but beginning to plateau, the pace of change in our response to this pandemic has also slowed and plateaued, now allowing for less frequent meetings schedules. So please, mark your calendars for **Wednesday, March 17** for our next Team Member Town Hall, which will be livestreamed at noon on Bridge and Facebook. Visit Bridge for the full calendar of 2021 dates for remaining Leadership Meetings and Team Member Town Halls.

THANK YOU for WHO you are and ALL you do each and every day! Because of you, our future is bright with better days ahead, and no limit to what we will accomplish together as we put this pandemic behind us and continue our journey to lead the way in getting healthcare right for our community!

TriHealth Transitions to a New Courier

As of May 1, 2021, Accurate Courier Services will become TriHealth's new courier partner. MedSpeed will continue to support TriHealth through April 30, 2021, as the transition is under way to ensure there are no gaps in services. Please review the key points [here](#).

Trailblazing Women at TriHealth

Every March since 1987, America has celebrated Women's History Month to recognize women's often-unseen influence on our history, culture and society. TriHealth has been an organization that empowers women since the Sisters of Charity and Methodist Deaconesses founded our anchor hospitals, and this year, we are celebrating Women's History Month by recognizing some of our [trailblazing women](#) who are making significant impacts, breaking glass ceilings and paving the way for other women at TriHealth and our community.