

THE lamp LIGHTER

Methodist Hospitals Nurse Newsletter • August 2023

COMING SOON: The New UKG/Kronos Advanced Scheduling Module

Making, influencing and viewing your work schedule, and making sure that your time record is complete is about to get much easier.

Starting with inpatient nursing and surgery, Methodist Hospitals will be rolling out the UKG/Kronos Advanced Scheduling Module. This extension of our current time-keeping system is designed to take the guesswork out of scheduling while helping us to better anticipate staffing needs, improve productivity and deliver exceptional patient care.

When it is fully implemented, the UKG/Kronos Advanced Scheduling Module will give staff an employee scheduling app through which they will easily view schedules, set scheduling preferences, manage availability, swap shifts, request coverage, sign up for additional shifts, arrange vacation time, stay up to date as schedules change, and more.

“Because everything can be done through the app, staff won’t have to try to reach out to their manager and wait for an email or text response,” said Julie Kerns, AVP of Patient Care Services. “They’ll be able to make requests and check its approval status via the app.”

Nurse managers will benefit from a simplified employee scheduling venue that enables them to communicate schedules quickly, provides scheduling fairness and transparency while increasing productivity, improving employee engagement and better controlling labor costs.



“UKG/Kronos Advanced Scheduling Module will house our staffing opportunities in a central location,” Kerns said. “So that we will better utilize our available staffing resources in the best way possible.”

The UKG/Kronos Advanced Scheduling Module is currently scheduled to be live for self-service among our inpatient and surgery staff in mid-September. We have a group of “Super Users,” comprised mostly of nurse managers, who are testing the system before it goes live, and who will be available to train all other nurse managers. After that, our inpatient and surgery nurses will be trained by their managers.

“Ultimately, this module will give our staff complete, mobile access to their schedules through the app or on a desktop at the hospital,” Kerns said.

Meet our 3 Newest Nurse Managers

Over the last several weeks, Methodist Hospital has appointed these new nurse managers:

Glynis Adams, MS, RN | Northlake Campus, 4 East

Glynis brings extensive nursing experience to Methodist Hospitals. She has been in nursing for 41 years – with 25 of those years in nursing leadership, most recently at Loretto Hospital in Chicago.



“I was drawn to Methodist by its patient population and its commitment to the community,” Glynis said.

Since joining Methodist in late June, Glynis has been focused on building team-member engagement in her unit by encouraging the nurses to take ownership of the unit and practice the principles of self-governance.

“I like to deal with the whole patient – spiritually and medically,” Glynis said. “I encourage the nurses in my unit to build a connection and relationship with their patients.”

Shelley Marshall, MSN, RN | Southlake Campus, 5W1

Shelley brings a wide range of experience to Methodist Hospitals. Before coming here this summer, she was an opera and musical theater major in college, and sang back-up for Andy Williams and the Gatlin Brothers.

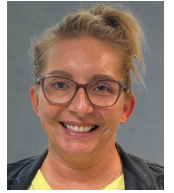


Feeling the need to get a “real job,” Shelley launched a successful health management career that she transitioned into a nursing career 13 years ago.

“Nursing is the perfect fit for me,” she said. “I’ve had nothing but support since joining Methodist and I really enjoy the autonomy to create a positive place for nurses to come to work and feel valued. I sense that this will be a new job every day, and that’s exciting.”

Jamie Tarpley, RN, BSN, PMHN/BC Clinical Nurse Manager | Behavioral Medicine

In the spring of this year, Jamie was promoted to her current management position after working in the Behavioral Health unit for just over six years.



Prior to Jamie’s promotion, her position was vacant for a while. So, she is currently focused on updating policies and building staff. Two new mental health techs were recently added, and recruitment efforts are underway to expand the nursing staff.

Jamie’s patient care philosophy centers around treating patients like family.

“Mental illness is like any other illness,” she said. “We have to be respectful of that and look past the stigma associated with mental illness and treat patients for their illness.”

Orthopedic Nurse Navigator here to help patients and colleagues

Orthopedic nurse navigator Codi Eckles, RN, BSN, is a valuable resource for both patients and nurses.



Since coming to Methodist in January after eight years at Northwest Health in Valparaiso, Codi coordinates care for orthopedic and total joint replacement patients.

“I’m here to help,” Codi said. “I get clearances, labs and everything patients need to arrange for their surgery. I work with case management, pre admitting and the Ortho-Spine Center to make sure patients who are having surgery have what they need and nothing is missed.”

In addition to pulling together loose ends and making sure patients’ surgeries are a smooth process, Codi also leads Methodist’s twice-weekly Joint Education Classes.

“My door is always open,” Codi said. “I’m here for our patients and my nursing colleagues to answer any questions they have.”



Northlake Campus 600 Grant Street, Gary, IN 46402 | 219-886-4000

Midlake Campus 2269 West 25th Avenue, Gary, IN 46407 | 219-944-4160

Southlake Campus 8701 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410 | 219-738-5500