

HULSTON NEWS

Hulston Cancer Center, CoxHealth | Springfield, MO | March 2010

Colorectal Awareness Party: A Brown Tie Affair

Colorectal cancer is very treatable if caught in the early stages, and the best screening tool to identify colorectal cancer is colonoscopy. Unfortunately, only 40 percent of people who should be screened are screened. One of the main reasons for this lack of screening is the high cost of colonoscopy. On Saturday, April 10, the CoxHealth Foundation will host the first Colorectal Awareness Party to raise money to assist patients that cannot afford a colonoscopy. The evening will include dinner, music and both a live and silent auction. For more information on this event, contact the CoxHealth Foundation at 417/269-7150.

Out and About: KGBX Women's Show

The KGBX Women's Show was held February 27. Several departments from CoxHealth showcased their services, including The Women's Center, Hulston Cancer Center and the Center for Advanced Pain Management. The Women's Center offered free osteoporosis screenings and brought along a wide assortment of products from their Milestones Boutique. Hulston Cancer Center displayed post-mastectomy products along with wigs and head wraps.



Pictured Above: Grethen Mathews, Kim Kinser and Linda Huckaby from The Women's Center take a break between visitors to their booth.



Pictured Left: Sarah Vale from the Hulston Cancer Center.



What Our Patients Are Saying:

These quotes come directly from the patient satisfaction surveys.

"I could not have asked for more caring, concerned people. They were outstanding. The guys in radiation were super."

"My husband (patient) was extremely pleased and satisfied with every experience here at the Hulston Cancer Center. The most enjoyable factors were the pleasant and friendly staff and volunteers – even fellow patients."

"Genise Davis was a Godsend and 'angel' who went above and beyond in helping us with our need of hospitality rooms at Cox North, Cancer Care financial assistance and volunteer drivers. She was very dedicated and dependable and made my husband feel very at ease and comfortable."

"We will highly recommend this facility to everyone we meet and offer it to our friends and family if they ever need the best care."

"Everyone has been wonderful. Very caring and courteous."

"I received very good care – professional, skilled and knowledgeable. Staff had a great sense of humor and treated me like family. It could not be better on the 2nd floor, outpatient chemo."

"The Hulston radiation employees I met made the extra effort to give the best treatment. For example, at my first radiation treatment, Bill came out to the waiting room and showed me how to get to a dressing room, radiation treatment room, etc. It wasn't left to chance."

"Doctors Abdalla and Albritton were great! Their expertise was reassuring."



Strategies for the Future of HCC

Four goals are now in place as a result of strategic planning at Hulston Cancer Center. These goals were developed from suggestions and discussion at planning meetings held in late 2009, and were approved by the Hulston Cancer Committee in February. Based on the CoxHealth pillars of excellence, the goals are:

- PEOPLE: To distinguish HCC as an employer of choice.
- QUALITY: To deliver clinical excellence in oncology.
- BUSINESS: To increase the profitability of the oncology service line.
- SERVICE: To create a culture of service excellence.

Strategies to achieve these goals have been developed and are assigned to the HCC leadership staff as well as to new and existing HCC committees. Strategies in the PEOPLE section include exploring the addition of new staff and physicians, improving staff access to continuing education, and improving alignment of goals between physicians and CoxHealth.

In the QUALITY pillar, strategies are to develop a committee to oversee recommendations regarding new technology, to explore the creation of prostate cancer and breast cancer centers of excellence and a single-point-of-service cancer hospital. Improved marketing and outreach as well as evaluation by outside consultants are strategies in the BUSINESS pillar.

SERVICE strategies include creating a patient care steering committee, expanding cancer research, improving data coordination, and developing new and improved programs and services.

Work has already begun on several of these strategies. The Oncology Technology Committee is reviewing options for a more robust stereotactic radiosurgery program, and plans are underway to better promote opportunities for continuing education. Regular progress updates will be included in future issues of the Hulston News, and circulation is being expanded to include strategic planning participants.

Announcements



Kim Kinser from The Women's Center has had an exciting beginning to 2010. She and her husband Kevin welcomed their second grandchild on January 25, Jace Michael Rinehart. Kim also saw her father, Steve Lyons, inducted into the Missouri Quarter Horse Hall of Fame on January 23. Steve has been a professional quarter horse trainer since 1986 and is only the fifth person inducted into the Hall of Fame. Congratulations to the Kinser family!



After much anticipation, Shana Tauai, director of support services, and her husband, Damon, welcomed baby son Troy Makaio on February 27, 2010. Troy weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 22 inches long. He is the third child for Shana and Damon. Congratulations to the Tauai family!



Jackie Pina passed her NCLEX and is now an RN. She is currently doing her RN Internship on 500 West. Congratulations!



Gail Strong, RN, 500 West, has retired after many years in oncology at CoxHealth. Nurse manager Marcy Keltner stated, "She had a wealth of knowledge and experience that cannot be replaced. We will really miss her." Join us in wishing Gail a happy retirement!



What's New in Oncology

Patients who own an iPhone or iPod touch have a new option for tracking their cancer care. Merck & Co. Inc. recently launched iChemoDiary, a free application for these digital devices that can help patients and caregivers record chemotherapy schedules, medications and treatment plans and certain side effects of treatment. iChemoDiary allows patients to create reports that chart the frequency and severity of side effects and then print and share the reports with their healthcare provider.



Super Colon
March 10, 2010
9 am - 7 pm
Battlefield Mall
Free

Visit the 10' tall, 20' long inflatable replica of a colon. As you walk through the exhibit, encounter simulated healthy tissue, disease states like Crohn's and colitis, polyps, and beginning and advanced colon cancer. Call your local American Cancer Society, (417) 447 1475, for more information.

