



# LOGAN HEALTH

Report to the Community

Fall 2023



**Let's talk about it.**

## NORMALIZING TALKING ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Montana has one of the highest suicide rates in the nation. Suicide affects all people, but one of the most vulnerable groups affected by this crisis is Montanans aged 15-24. To combat this alarming trend, Logan Health has joined forces with Billings Clinic and the Montana High School Association to launch the "Let's Talk About It" campaign to underscore the importance of recognizing and openly discussing mental health issues.

To encourage Montanans to seek help when needed, the campaign has enlisted the support of prominent advocates: MSU football player Tommy Mellott, Lady Griz basketball player Dani Bartsch and Slam Dunk Artist

Isaac Fisher. Together, these influential figures are championing the cause to normalize asking for help. The campaign's fundamental goal is to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness, which is often a barrier to seeking timely assistance.

For more information and resources, please visit [logan.org/LetsTalk](https://logan.org/LetsTalk).

**For the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, dial 9-8-8 or text "MT" to 741-741**

**In the event of a life-threatening emergency, dial 9-1-1**

## HALL OF HOPE INSPIRES OPTIMISM FOR PATIENT FAMILIES

On September 23, 2023, families and children who have stayed in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) gathered to witness the unveiling of Logan Health's NICU Hall of Hope, complete with a celebration afterwards at the NICU Reunion. The Hall of Hope is an inspiring photo gallery of former NICU patients, designed to give families comfort and optimism as they look to their child's future, as well as to honor the experiences of past patients. After the unveiling, families were encouraged to continue the celebration by joining the NICU Reunion held at the Sunshine Factory. At this event sponsored by 406 For Kids and Three Rivers Bank, families enjoyed food, games, face painting, and best of all, reconnecting with fellow NICU families and the staff members that helped them through treatment.





## MORE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR LOCAL CANCER PATIENTS

The Logan Health ASSIST program recently received a \$25,000 grant from the American Cancer Society (ACS) to provide transportation for patients receiving cancer treatment. Lack of transportation to treatment often prevents many people who are living with cancer from getting the high-quality care they need and can worsen their health outcomes. This is the second year that the ACS provided grants to ASSIST.

“With the financial support from the ACS, ASSIST was able to provide more than 500 rides to medical appointments for cancer patients in 2022,” says Jane Emmert, director of Logan Health - ASSIST. “They generously renewed our grant in 2023, and ASSIST will continue to help many of our community members get to their much-needed appointments.”

ASSIST, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping their neighbors with financial aid, meals or groceries, social service needs, home care, transportation or other unmet needs, is an affiliate of Logan Health and is located on the main campus in Kalispell. For more information about ASSIST, call (406) 758-1437.

## — News Briefs —

### Whitefish Hospital Receives High Honors

For the first time, Logan Health—Whitefish received a 5-star overall quality rating, the highest designation available for hospitals. The rating was awarded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) based on patient surveys. Additionally, the hospital received 5-stars in patient experience from Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, a patient satisfaction survey in collaboration with CMS.

### Leading The State In Cardiac Care

Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell was awarded eight American Heart Association achievement awards for their implementation of quality improvement measures that ensure cardiovascular patients receive efficient and coordinated care. This quality of care emphasizes Logan Health’s commitment to saving more lives, shortening recovery times and eliminating returns to the hospital. The eight awards were the most received by any hospital in Montana.

### Flathead Valley Welcomes Its First Orthopedic Trauma Surgeon

Until recently, a patient with a pelvic fracture would be flown out of the valley for treatment. However, with the addition of orthopedic-trauma surgeon Clayton Vaughan, MD, this is no longer the case.

Dr. Vaughan specializes in complex fractures and soft tissue injuries involving the pelvis, upper and lower extremities, as well as joint replacement surgery for arthritis. He treats patients with bone injuries that did not heal or realign correctly, and fracture-related infections after trauma. His focus remains on helping to restore form, function and mobility for patients and allowing them to return to the activities they enjoy.

# — Upcoming Events —

**OCTOBER 27** Healthier Communities: Day of Healthcare at FVCC Wachholz College Center. Learn more at [logan.org](http://logan.org).

**NOVEMBER 1-30** American Diabetes Month. Learn about the Diabetes Prevention Program by calling (406) 751-5454.

**NOVEMBER 16** Great American Smoke Out. Call (406) 751-7675 to learn about the Nicotine-free Living Class.

**DECEMBER 5-9** National Influenza Vaccination Week. Stay healthy this winter by getting a flu shot.

## COMBINED ORGANIZATION BRINGS GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

On September 1, 2023, Logan Health and Billings Clinic united to create one independent health system dedicated to serving patients across Montana and Wyoming. The combination brought together two of Montana's oldest, largest and most comprehensive organizations and great opportunities for advanced health care across their service areas. With many shared values and a deep commitment to serving all residents of Montana and Wyoming when and where they need, the two organizations look forward to working together and advancing care throughout the broad geographic areas they serve.

Patients, employees and providers from both organizations will benefit from an organization that will have the scale, breadth and capabilities to provide an elevated level of care to the communities they serve, creating greater opportunities over the long term. Together, the two organizations will be able to share best practices and advance quality and safety by working collaboratively and supporting initiatives that neither organization could support on its own.

Since day one, much work has been underway to collectively map the path toward integration. Workgroups made up of representatives from each organization have already begun identifying opportunities to better serve patients, improve operational performance, enhance employee and provider experience and position the organization as a workplace of choice.

As in any effort of this size, integration will take time. "There's a lot of work to do as we come together, but we are committed to combining responsibly and thoughtfully, and always with the patient at the center," says Craig Lambrecht, MD, the new organization's CEO.



# — In The Community —



Logan Health – Whitefish and Land to Hand Montana partner to present the Seed to Table series in the Planetree Healing Garden.



Logan Health Medical Center provides free helmets to the community at the 2023 Northwest Montana Fair.



The Logan Health Foundation and Glacier Range Riders team up for a day of fun at Kids on the Rise Baseball Camp.



Logan Health hosts its annual Kids Triathlon at Woodland Park in Kalispell.



Logan Health hosts more than 400 runners at the annual Cedar Creek Marathon in Columbia Falls.



Logan Health – Conrad hosts annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser to raise money for a Tru-D UV disinfecting robot.



Logan Health – Cut Bank hosts inaugural Kids Health and Safety Fair.



The Logan Health Hi-Line facilities team up to participate in the Marias Fair Parade in Shelby.



Logan Health – Shelby celebrate Shelby High School's homecoming with a community BBQ.



Logan Health – Chester at the Hi-Line Harvest festival.