

# LOGAN HEALTH

## Report to the Community

Fall 2024

### INCREASED TREATMENT FOR DEPRESSION AT WHITEFISH CLINIC

Logan Health – Whitefish psychiatrist Doug Muir, MD, began treating patients who have depression with Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) in 2019. Seeking an alternative for people who have tried multiple antidepressant medications without satisfaction or success, Dr. Muir appealed to the hospital foundation to purchase a TMS system, the first in the Flathead Valley.

During the first three years, the behavioral health team at Logan Health - Whitefish (LHW) treated 120 patients for depression or anxiety disorders with TMS. Patients have stated that TMS therapy has been life-changing and even life-saving. Due to increased demand, the LHW Foundation launched a campaign for a second TMS system in 2022, which was purchased and installed in July 2023.

In addition to adding a second TMS system and doubling the clinic's capacity, the clinic also welcomed new providers Ruth Myers, MD, and Jennifer Lewis, PMHNP-BC, who specialize in psychiatry and mental health. For more information about TMS treatment call (406) 862-1030.



### 2024 RUN CEDAR CREEK RAISES \$25,000 FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION IN THE FLATHEAD

The 2024 Run Cedar Creek took place on September 21 in Columbia Falls, drawing 444 runners in total. The race featured 68 marathon participants, 166 half marathon runners, 79 runners competing in the 10K and 131 in the 5K. This year's event raised \$25,000 through race registration fees. These funds will go directly to the Nate Chute Foundation and its suicide prevention initiatives in the Flathead Valley.

A tremendous turnout of local volunteers, many of whom were Logan Health employees and local students, helped make the day a success. The event also received an outpouring of support from the community, with a large and enthusiastic crowd of spectators lining the race routes to cheer on the runners. The strong sense of community spirit combined with the event's meaningful cause created an unforgettable atmosphere for participants and supporters alike.

## FIRST TREATMENT OF CUTTING-EDGE BiTE CANCER THERAPY GIVEN AT LOGAN HEALTH

For patients with cancers of the blood, bone marrow, and lymphatic system, (also known as leukemias, lymphomas, and myelomas), that are not responding to treatment, a new type of immunotherapy may be the key. Bispecific T-Cell Engager Therapy, commonly termed BiTE therapy, is a new treatment that assists the body in destroying cancer cells.

Oncology specialist Peter Wagner, MD, managed the first treatment of BiTE therapy at Logan Health in August. He explained that this treatment greatly assists the T-cells of the body that attack diseased cells and help prevent infection and disease. "With BiTE therapy, the bispecific antibodies find and bind to the T-cell and the cancer cell, carrying and activating the T-cell to destroy the cancer cell." This powerful process could help those in search of other treatment options and give them new hope. For Logan Health's cancer teams, offering this service is another step in advancing care, providing the very best cancer treatment in Montana, and keeping patients close to home.



## — News Briefs —

### Logan Health Medical Center welcomes new spine specialist

Logan Health recently welcomed Joseph Driver, MD, a complex spine surgeon, to the Neuroscience and Spine clinic. Dr. Driver's expertise in complex spine conditions, such as scoliosis, spinal deformities and complex spinal reconstructions, will enhance the comprehensive neuro care offered locally, providing advanced treatment options to our community.

### Another 5-Star year for Logan Health – Whitefish

For the second straight year, 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. The hospital is one of 381 hospitals nationwide to receive the rating.

### Glacier Range Riders help raise awareness for suicide prevention

Supported by a \$5,000 match from Glacier Bank, the Logan Health Foundation raised over \$13,000 for local suicide prevention resources during the "Let's Talk About It" Glacier Range Riders baseball game on August 27. Both the Range Riders and the Billings Mustangs wore specialty jerseys to promote mental health awareness across the state.



# — Upcoming Events —

**NOVEMBER** Diabetes Awareness Month

**NOVEMBER** Lung Cancer Awareness Month

**DECEMBER 3** Kalispell Blood Drive, LHMC, Paintbrush Room

**DECEMBER 4** Whitefish Blood Drive, LHW Professional Office Building

**DECEMBER 7** Sensory-Friendly Santa visits the Sunshine Factory.  
Schedule an appointment to visit Santa  
at [www.logan.org/sensorysanta](http://www.logan.org/sensorysanta)

## LOGAN HEALTH EXPANDS SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CARE WITH MOBILE UNIT

During the 2024-25 school year, Logan Health is deploying a mobile health unit to increase access to vital health care services for students, faculty and staff at schools in rural locations. The mobile unit will alternate during the week between West Valley School, Kila School, Marion School and Lincoln County High School.

This service is a part of Logan Health's ongoing commitment to improving health care access, and making sure students can receive necessary care conveniently without missing valuable school time. The mobile health unit will offer preventive care, acute care, chronic care, health education, and mental health medication management and resources at each location. Access to convenient health care can significantly improve students' overall academic performance and well-being, particularly in rural communities where resources are not readily available.

"Our mission is to help students, faculty and staff be their best by supporting their health and well-being," said Kevin Abel, co-CEO of Billings Clinic – Logan Health. "With our mobile health unit, we can bring care directly to rural schools, reaching more communities while minimizing disruptions to their school day. This initiative helps us expand our impact, keeping students healthy, in school and ready to succeed."

This initiative builds on the success of Logan Health's School-Based Health Center program, which has been providing essential health services to students in the Flathead Valley for over eight years. With established on-site clinics at schools in Bigfork and Columbia Falls, the program has significantly improved access to care for these communities. The addition of this mobile health unit will now extend these services to even more schools, ensuring that students across rural areas can benefit from comprehensive and convenient health care tailored to their needs.

The school-based mobile health unit will bring health care services directly to the schools on a weekly basis. Staffed by a Logan Health nurse practitioner, each mobile health unit will work closely with each school's administrators to address specific health needs.

Funding for the mobile health unit was made possible thanks to generous donations from the DeBartolo Family, the Broussard Family Foundation and Bert and Kari Arnlund.

For more information about Logan Health's school-based services, visit [logan.org/schools](http://logan.org/schools).



# — In The Community —



*The Betty Woods Golf Tournament helps raise funds for the A.L.E.R.T. program at Logan Health.*



*Logan Health hosts Let's Talk About It Night with the Glacier Range Riders, bringing awareness to suicide prevention and raising over \$13,000 for suicide prevention initiatives in the Flathead Valley.*



*Logan Health hosts the Updates in Clinical Neurosciences Conference and Emergency Neurological Life Support (ENLS).*



*Logan Health receives handmade fidget quilts from the Teakettle Quilt Guild. These will be used to help dementia patients with their restlessness during care.*



*Vocational students tour Logan Health Medical Center.*



*Program Coordinator Wendy Wilson and volunteer Liz spread awareness of ASSIST's services at the first Kalispell Health and Wellness Fair.*



*Logan Health – Shelby physical therapy department teaches Shelby High School med prep students more about the profession of being a physical therapist.*



*Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce and Logan Health – Shelby leaders and staff cut the ribbon to officially open the doors of the new primary care clinic.*



*Logan Health – Conrad and Logan Health – Shelby participate in a full-scale mass casualty exercise with local first responders, Logan Health A.L.E.R.T. and Benefis Hospital's Mercy Flight.*



*Logan Health – Cut Bank hosts their community health fair.*



*Logan Health Assisted Living - Chester residents and bus participate in the Chester-Joplin-Inverness school homecoming parade.*