



Report to the Community

Winter 2025

LOGAN HEALTH HOSPITALS RECOGNIZED FOR PERFORMANCE LEADERSHIP

Four Logan Health hospitals were recognized for 2024 Performance Leadership Awards by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. These awards highlight rural hospitals for performing in the top quartile (75th percentile or above) in Quality, Outcomes, and/or Patient Perspective. Logan Health hospitals received recognition in each category this year: Logan Health – Conrad and Logan Health – Cut Bank for Quality, Logan Health Medical Center for Outcomes and Logan Health – Whitefish for Patient Perspective.

“These awards are a reflection of Logan Health’s commitment to delivering high-quality care to rural communities across Montana,” said Logan Health CEO Kevin Abel. “The dedication of our teams to serving Montanans, regardless of location, continues to drive the positive outcomes and exceptional patient experiences highlighted by this recognition.”

The Performance Leadership Awards are based on data from the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX, the industry’s most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance.

BUILDING THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE: LOGAN HEALTH’S TRAINING AND RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Logan Health is dedicated to developing a skilled and compassionate health care workforce. The New Graduate RN Residency program along with its Certified Nursing Aide (CNA) and Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) training programs provide paid, hands-on education led by credentialed nurse instructors. In 2024, Logan Health trained 127 CNA students in six cohorts and 40 RMA students. For many students, these programs are just the start of building a fulfilling career in health care.

The New Graduate RN Residency Program ensures a smooth transition from academic studies to professional nursing. This 12-month program combines patient-facing orientation with professional development and produced 36 graduates in 2024. With three annual cohorts in February, July and October, 55 new RNs began their journey with Logan Health this year.

These programs play a vital role in ensuring quality health care in our community, equipping caregivers with the skills and confidence to meet the needs of our growing population.





HOLIDAY JOY ABOUNDS AT LOGAN HEALTH CHILDREN'S

The joyous spirit of the holiday season filled the halls for young patients at Logan Health Children's. Santa Claus visited the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), where families received their newborn's very first photos with Santa. In the Pediatric unit, Santa visited young patients needing extra holiday cheer. He also made an appearance at the third-annual Sensory-Friendly Santa event, sponsored by Whitefish Credit Union and hosted by Logan Health Children's. At this event, children with sensory sensitivities told Santa their Christmas wishes without the stressors of long lines, bright lights and loud noises.

The festivities continued as parents of hospitalized children were invited to select gifts at no cost for their children from Logan Health Children's 6th Annual Toy Box. This event, also presented by Whitefish Credit Union, was a heartfelt culmination of Christmas spirit and brought joy to children and their families.

— News Briefs —

Cancer patients receive heartfelt gifts

The team at Logan Health Hematology & Oncology recently passed out cards and homemade paper flowers to more than 60 cancer patients receiving infusion treatment. These gifts were donated by students in Whitefish High School's Cancer Support Association. The Logan Health Cancer Program thanks them for their generosity and for working alongside staff to encourage patients.

Thanksgiving turkey donations

Logan Health donated more than 4,000 Thanksgiving turkeys to all their employees and an additional 444 to local food banks, schools, churches and other community organizations in Kalispell, Whitefish, Columbia Falls, Bigfork, Lakeside, Eureka, Shelby, Cut Bank, Chester and Conrad.

Whitefish makes Christmas magic

For several years, employees at Logan Health – Whitefish have participated in the Whitefish Rotary's "Magic of Christmas" program. Hospital administration and employees adopted three local families and purchased gifts on their wish list. Gifts were wrapped and marked for each family and then delivered by the Whitefish Rotary to families.

— Upcoming Events —

FEBRUARY National Heart Month

MARCH 8 CycleMT stationary bike relay fundraiser at
FVCC Wachholz Center logan.org/CycleMT

APRIL 26 47th Annual A.L.E.R.T. Banquet logan.org/ALERTbanquet
Flathead County Fairgrounds Trade Center Building

MAY 31 9th Annual Spring Into Safety Day
Flathead County Fairgrounds Trade Center Building

LOGAN HEALTH PERFORMS MONTANA'S FIRST MINIMALLY INVASIVE LASER INTERSTITIAL THERMAL THERAPY (LITT) PROCEDURE IN BRAIN TUMOR

In December, Logan Health successfully performed Montana's first minimally invasive Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (LITT) brain tumor procedure, marking a significant advancement in brain tumor treatment for the state and region. Using the NeuroBlate® System from Monteris Medical, a state-of-the-art MRI-guided laser technology, a team led by Neurosurgeon T.C. Origitano, MD, PhD, precisely targeted and successfully treated a patient's brain tumor through minimally invasive thermal ablation. This innovative approach allows surgeons to destroy abnormal tissue while preserving healthy tissue, using real-time MRI monitoring to ensure accuracy throughout the procedure.

"This is an important step in providing the people of Montana with advanced neurologic care," said Dr. Origitano. "The precision and minimally invasive nature of the LITT allow us to address the challenging cases that we see with reduced risk and quicker recovery times. It also allows for our patients to receive this care closer to home."

In addition to reducing surgical risks, LITT has been shown to result in shorter hospital stays and faster recovery times compared to traditional brain surgery. Many patients do not require an intensive care stay and are discharged with one to two stitches in the skull. This is especially beneficial for patients in Montana, where traveling long distances for follow-up care can be a significant burden.

By adopting innovative approaches to neurosurgical treatment, Logan Health continues to focus on patient-centered care and improving outcomes for those facing complex medical challenges.

Funding for the NeuroBlate Laser System was made possible thanks to a generous donation by Eddie and Candy DeBartolo & Family. For more information about how you can donate to causes like these, visit logan.org/foundation.



— In The Community —



Logan Health - Whitefish participates in the Whitefish Rotary's "Magic of Christmas" program, adopting three local families.



Children with sensory sensitivities meet Santa and tell him their Christmas wishes at the third-annual Sensory-Friendly Santa event.



Over 60 cards and crafted flowers are donated to cancer patients at Logan Health by Whitefish High School's Cancer Support Association.



Drs. Luis and Allison Alberton host students from Peterson Elementary School for an interactive lung health demonstration for Lung Cancer Awareness Month.



The RoboScout Squad, a robotics team of five talented Girl Scouts, visit Logan Health's OR for a hands-on tour of the da Vinci Xi surgical robot.



Logan Health hosts the Kalispell Chamber's Leadership Flathead Healthcare Day. Attendees gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities in Flathead Valley health care.



Logan Health Hi-Line facilities donate more than 2,500 items to local food pantries in each community from their annual Brawl of the Wild Food Drive.



Logan Health EMS brings Whoville to the Cut Bank Parade of Lights with their Grinch themed float!



Logan Health Assisted Living - Shelby hosts annual fundraiser to raise money for activities and a new walking path.



Logan Health - Cut Bank board and staff contributes \$60,000 for the Cut Bank school nurse program.



Santa makes a special stop at Logan Health - Conrad during their inaugural Meet Santa event.



Logan Health - Shelby staff share their "Hard Candy Christmas" light parade float with assisted living and care center residents.