

06-25 Policy Matters

Subject: Recognizing the Importance of Holistic Care

Preheader: Here, Policy Matters. Learn the latest from UPMC's Government Relations team.



From brain health to community activism, this month we celebrate UPMC's commitment to holistic care.

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. This is a time for all people, regardless of age, to evaluate their brain health, advocate for others, and support organizations in education and research.

UPMC takes care of the body beyond mental and brain health needs. Through elevated pediatric emergency care, specialty services like spine surgery and neurosurgery, and improved staff benefits, hospitals like UPMC Washington and UPMC Greene demonstrate a commitment to care and collaboration.

Finally, the recent launch of UPMC Community Commitment takes these initiatives further to truly affect the lives of the people we seek to serve. Read this month's *Policy Matters* to learn more about our work to support our community in all areas of care.



Celebrating Community, Progress, and Partnerships



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We believe life-changing care goes beyond hospital walls. The recent launch of **UPMC Community Commitment** highlights how we're investing in the health and well-being of the neighborhoods we serve every single day.

Each year, UPMC contributes nearly \$2 billion to support stronger, healthier communities by:

- Committing more to charity care than any other health system in Pennsylvania.
- Enhancing health and wellness through 3,000-plus free and subsidized programs, including support for seniors, veterans' programs, access to healthy foods, and more.
- Sponsoring 98% of all hospital-funded research in western Pennsylvania.

We invite you to [**explore the stories, milestones, and events**](#) that demonstrate our community commitment.

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UPMC Washington and UPMC Greene Celebrate First Anniversary with UPMC

June 1 marked a significant milestone for UPMC Washington and UPMC Greene: one year since officially joining UPMC. This anniversary represents a celebration of progress, partnership, and a shared commitment to delivering exceptional care by investing in the health and well-being of the communities of Washington and Greene counties.

Highlights include elevated pediatric emergency care, specialty services like spine surgery and neurosurgery, and improved staff benefits, demonstrating a commitment to care and collaboration.

"Over the past year, we've made tremendous strides in strengthening our foundation as trusted providers of excellent patient care," says Brook Ward, president, UPMC Washington and UPMC Greene. "We've honored our legacy while embracing new opportunities to grow and serve our region — together."

As we reflect on this first year, we remain focused on delivering compassionate, high-quality care while fostering a workplace where every team member feels valued and empowered.

[Learn more](#)



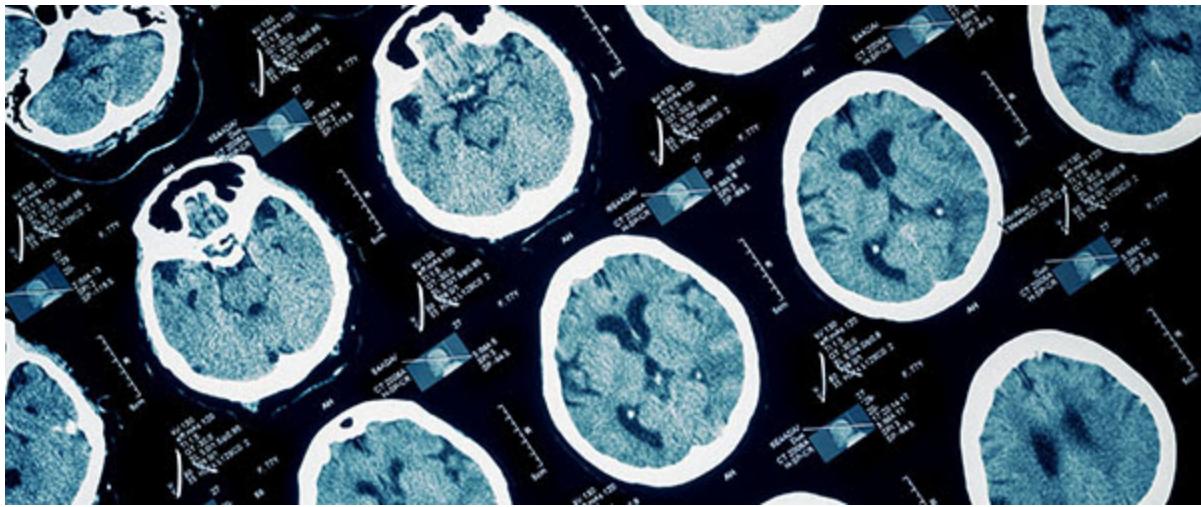
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UPMC Washington Expands Pediatric Emergency Department Access

UPMC Washington has expanded pediatric emergency care services in partnership with nationally ranked UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. This ensures that children in Washington County and surrounding areas have convenient access to specialty care when in the emergency department.

The new emergency department affiliation builds upon the longstanding joint venture between UPMC Washington and UPMC Children's. It further enhances UPMC Washington's growth and development.

[Learn more](#)



Alzheimer's and Brain Health Awareness: Recent Research, Resources, and News

UPMC excels in brain health and Alzheimer's care through expert clinical teams, cutting-edge research, early detection tools, digital health innovations, caregiver support programs, and more.

- [Biomarker Test Can Detect Alzheimer's Pathology Earlier.](#)
- [Brain Health Articles and Information from UPMC HealthBeat.](#)
- [Expanding Access to Infusion Therapies for Alzheimer's Disease.](#)
- [Mindful Investing: How UPMC Enterprises Supports Innovation in Brain Health.](#)
- [Spinal Nerve Stimulation Reverses Neuromuscular Disease Progression.](#)
- [Study Reveals Sedentary Behavior Is a Risk Factor for Alzheimer's.](#)



Updates from UPMC Health Plan

UPMC Health Plan focuses on improving the health of our members. Keep up to date with news focused on community impact.



- In recognition of May's Military Awareness Month, Pennsylvania Rep. Joshua D. Kail hosted a Washington County Veterans Recognition Breakfast at the Slovan VFW Post 6553. Chris Preffer, director, Program Innovation and Improvement, Medicare, UPMC Health Plan, attended and provided welcome remarks to thank Rep. Kail. A veteran himself, Chris helped design UPMC Health Plan's *UPMC for Life* Medicare coverage plan tailored to serve veterans and work with existing VA/veterans' retirement coverage.
- On May 20, Dr. Vanessa Campbell, PharmD, director, Clinical Pharmacy, UPMC Health Plan, accepted the [2025 Pharmacy Quality Alliance \(PQA\) Laura Cranston Excellence in Quality Award for Prescription Drug Plans \(PDPs\)](#) on behalf of UPMC Health Plan. This award goes to PDPs with at least a 4.5-star Part D summary rating and a 4-star rating on all five PQA medication measures used within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Star Ratings Program.
- A new podcast featuring co-investigators for the UPMC Center for High-Value Health Care's Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute-funded study, "Specialty Medical Homes to Improve Outcomes for Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Behavioral Health Conditions," is [now available](#).
- The UPMC Insurance Services Division released a [new fact sheet about food programming](#).
- Matthew Hurford, MD, president and CEO, Community Care Behavioral Health Organization, [talked about Mental Health Awareness Month](#) with the PA Chamber of Business and Industry.
- The *American Journal of Managed Care (AJMC)* published a recent [podcast episode](#) featuring Jim Kinville of Workpartners®, who discussed workplace mental health in observance of May's Mental Health Awareness Month.

Stay Informed

UPMC's Government Relations Team is committed to delivering relevant and timely news on the latest health care trends, medical research, and clinical developments as they relate to public health issues.

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