

UPMC | POLICY MATTERS

This edition of *Policy Matters* highlights UPMC's continued investment in the people, programs, and partnerships that support the health of our communities.

From caregiver development at the UPMC School of Nursing and expanding pediatric behavioral health services at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh to supporting veterans, first responders, and academic partnerships, these efforts are helping meet growing health care needs across our region.

You'll also find updates on community partner collaborations and engagement with policymakers focused on improving access to care, addressing social risk, and building a healthier future for the communities we serve.

System Spotlight: Celebrating 134 New UPMC Schools of Nursing Graduates



MEDICAL ARTWORK LIVE

Congratulations to all graduates from the UPMC Schools of Nursing. Your dedication and hard work have prepared you to join a team who are prepared to meet growing health care needs and advance UPMC's commitment to high-quality patient care and community health.

Learn more

Health Policy In Focus



Making a Difference: Spotlighting Two UPMC Team Members Improving Health and Safety Beyond the Bedside

Kim B. and Todd L. are helping make UPMC safer and more supportive for patients, families, and employees.

Building upon 35 years of nursing experience, Kim B. partners with UPMC leaders to enhance safety, reduce violence, and strengthen workplace culture where employees feel secure at work.

At UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Todd L. has spent the past decade serving as a police officer while also helping ease the fears of young patients. He provides comfort, compassion, and reassurance to children and families.

Advocacy in Action



FACEBOOK.COM

Health Care Advocacy and Workforce Development Highlighted During Residency Program Visit

Representatives from UPMC Washington and Greene met with the UPMC Washington Family Medicine Residency Program to discuss the importance of primary care in Washington and Greene, and strategies to help recruit residents who train and stay in the area.

The almost 50-year-old residency program continues to prepare physicians for careers in family medicine, urgent care, and emergency medicine while strengthening the region's health care workforce.

Learn more



FACEBOOK.COM

UPMC Health Plan Welcomes Congressman Mike Kelly for Health Care Discussion

Congressman Mike Kelly recently met with leaders from UPMC Health Plan to discuss challenges facing patients, providers, and the health care system. The visit was a valuable opportunity to exchange perspectives and explore ways to strengthen health care access.

Learn more



UPMC Children's South Expansion Brings Specialized Behavioral Health Care Closer to Families

Recognizing the value of strong partnerships in addressing community health needs, Pennsylvania Sen. Dasha Robinson (D-Allegheny) secured $1 million in state funding for the $30 million investment to support behavioral health and capital-related costs for the expansion of UPMC Children's South. The expansion will create new treatment, consultation, observation, and stabilization services, meaning access to specialized care for children and adolescents across the region.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day



Hosanna House and UPMC Health Plan Connect Families to Health and Wellness Resources

UPMC Health Plan is a proud Hosanna House, Inc.'s Back-to-School Block Party partner, bringing together local businesses, nonprofits, and community partners focused on the well-being of children and families.

Boys & Girls Clubs, UPMC Invest in a Brighter Future for Midtownport-Area Teens

To celebrate their UPMC Jackiepoint and UPMC Hazlett Teen, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania opened the Club Teen Center. The space connects teenagers with innovative programs and resources to transform opportunities and inspire them to be community leaders.

UPMC Launches Saturday Injury Clinic in Washington

Student-athletes in Washington County and surrounding communities now have access to a new, convenient destination for sports-related injuries. UPMC is providing timely orthopaedic care for young athletes injured during games, practices and other athletic activities at its Saturday Injury Clinic in Washington.

UPMC Partnership Helps Horses With Hope Empower Children Through Equine Therapy

With support from UPMC, Horses With Hope provides therapeutic horseback riding lessons for children and children with special needs build strength, confidence, and independence.

UPMC and UPMC Health Plan Expand Access to History with Free Admission for Youth at Meadowcroft

"At UPMC and UPMC Health Plan, we recognize the importance of investing in the health of our region's communities," said connection" says Alice K. Bevan, senior vice president and chief community health officer, UPMC. "We're proud to support this free admission at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village and help make this remarkable destination accessible to more children throughout our region."

UPMC Health Plan Neighborhood Center in Erie Celebrates First Anniversary

Over the past year, the Neighborhood Center in Erie has become a trusted community hub. The center has helped connect individuals with more than 1,000 resources, ranging from transportation to mental health care, and is a model for the traditional health care setting.

Mercyhurst University and UPMC Hamot Partner to Strengthen Health Care Workforce

Mercyhurst University and UPMC Hamot are expanding health care education and workforce development opportunities through a new partnership that will launch a new cohort in the university's Hagelbarger Fellows program. The partnership will help prepare the next generation of future health care professionals in northwestern Pennsylvania.

MPRC, Lutheran Home at Kane, and UPMC Kane Partner for Home Health Care Education Program

The series is titled, Home Care Basics: Practical Support for Caring Families. The free, 6-part series is designed to provide practical skills to help caregivers feel more confident, prepared, and supported as they navigate the challenges of caring for someone.



UPMC Kane Recognizes Future Nurses at End-of-Summer Internship Celebration

The leadership team at UPMC Kane recently recognized and honored their nurse interns with an end-of-summer event. Liv Hoffman, a nursing student at Penn State Behrend and a native of Ferndale Cabin University, spent the summer working alongside clinicians to get hands-on learning experiences in real clinical situations.



NICU Families Reunite with UPMC Staff at Harrisburg Polaris Party

More than 50 families gathered at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg for the UPMC Polaris Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Family Party. The event celebrated former neonatal intensive care patients from Carlisle, Harrisburg, Lititz, and York who graduated from the NICU in 2025.



UPMC Hosts Community Baby Shower in Perry County to Support Expecting Families

UPMC's Nurse Family Partnership® in Central PA hosted its first community baby shower. The event connected expecting families with local resources, including UPMC and community-based services to help promote healthy pregnancies and prepare for a healthy start for their babies.

UPMC Brings Advanced Neurosurgical Technology Closer to Home for North Central Pa. Patients

Patients across north central Pennsylvania now have local access to advanced brain and spine surgery. UPMC Kane's new robotic system can plan and perform complex brain and spine procedures with greater precision. The investment expands the region's neurological care capabilities, sparing more patients to receive sophisticated treatment in the area.



UPMC Marks a Decade of Care in North Central Pa. During Little League World Series Festivities

More than 30 UPMC employees came out to walk the annual Little League World Series Grand Slam Parade route, hand out UPMC swag, and meet fans. The parade is a way for the community to come and exercise the health care services provided by the UPMC Middle Health Clinic.

Third Annual Recovery Walk for Overdose Awareness Held in Somerset County

Crossroads and UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Twin Lakes Center hosted the third annual Recovery Walk for Overdose Awareness in Somerset County. The event brought a community members together to honor those lost to overdose, support recovery efforts, and connect individuals in recovery with local mental health, recovery, and support resources.



UPMC Western Maryland Recognized by U.S. News & World Report

The U.S. News & World Report recognized UPMC Western Maryland as High Performing in four specialty service areas:

- Heart Attack Care
- Heart Bypass Surgery
- Hip Fracture Care
- Pacemaker Implantation

This national recognition reflects the commitment to delivering high-quality care and the dedication of the physicians, nurses, and staff who serve our patients every day.

Stay Informed

UPMC's Government Affairs Team is committed to delivering relevant and timely news on the latest health care trends, medical breakthroughs, and local developments as they relate to your health issues.

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